WORLD SOCCER

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The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

2 BROADWAY

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TOMMY McLEAN Glasgow Rangers

World SOCCER

Nottingham Forest win in Munich but

IS THE EUROPEAN CUP FINISHED?

PUT aside the glamour of the occasion, the glory of Nottingham Forest's remarkable victory, the bravery of a Swedish team decimated by an appalling injury sequence, and you are left with one question.

Is the Champions' Cup finished?

Writing this as I do, with the clamour of the Forest celebrations outside on the pitch still audible, it would be simple to take the easy way out.

Easy to say that on the night Forest weren't at their best because their opponents were so poor — certainly by far the worst team ever to walk up on European soccer's big night.

But I think *World Soccer* readers have come to expect more than instant hysteria. I'm afraid Forest fans won't like my viewpoint, but I am sadly left with the strong impression that the days of the great Champions' Cup finals are long since over.

And that must mean only one thing — it is time UEFA started to inquire seriously into the practicalities of a European club championship.

A month or two ago in these columns I questioned UEFA's attitude over the tournament planned by Real Madrid in

report from

KEIR RADNEDGE

memory of their late president, Santiago Bernabeu. I suggested that instead of putting the block on Madrid's idea of a mini-league-of-champions, UEFA should provide encouragement and even help in setting up what could be a pilot European championship.

The dismal Champions' Cup Final staged in Munich's Olimpiastadion — West Germany's first for 20 years — only underlines what I was saying.

More than that, I believe the manner of nervy Forest's meagre win over a team they should have slaughtered, emphasises an evening down of standards in European club football. That being the case the club crown should be settled on a home-and-away league basis and we should be spared the huge annual anti-climax the European final has become.

In the meantime, having stated the most immediate case and the most important in terms of the future of the money-spinning club competitions, there must still be room in which to praise Forest.

Not for their victory over Malmoe. I've seen Second Division sides in a lot of countries who could have done that.

Rather, take a look at Forest's meteoric record. Just over two years ago they were scraping their way out of the Second Division.

Nottingham Forest 1 (Francis 45)
Malmoe FF 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 57,500.
Referee: Erich Linemayr (Aus).

Nottm Forest: Shilton — Anderson, Lloyd, Burns, Clark — Francis, McGovern, Bowyer, Robertson — Woodcock, Birtles. Subs: O'Hare, Gemmill, Needham, O'Neill, Woods.

Malmoe: Moeller — Roland Andersson, Joensson, M. Andersson, Erlandsson — Tapper, (Malmberg 34) Ljungberg, Prytz, Kinnvall — Hansson (T. Andersson 82), Cervin. Subs: Arvidsson, T. Andersson, Malmberg, Akesson.

Corners: Forest 6 (3/3). Malmoe 3 (0/3).

Free kicks: Forest conceded 17, Malmo 19.

Offside: Forest caught 20 times, Malmoe 6.

A year later they had become surprise champions of England and now they are champions of Europe.

No team, in the 23-year history of European club football, has made that sort of triumphant progression.

This was the first time Forest had appeared in the European Cup, let alone in the Final. And only Internazionale (apart from inaugural winners Real Madrid) can claim success at first attempt.

Forest's win also provides English football with a record of which to be proud. For

● *Continued overleaf*

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COVER PICTURE

Hans Krankl of European Cup Winners Cup victors Barcelona.

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Trevor Francis scores the goal which won Nottingham Forest the European Cup.

European Cup Final report from KEIR RADNEDGE

England can now claim three clubs who have reached the European pinnacle — Manchester United, Liverpool and Forest. No other country can touch that. Italy two with Milan and Inter, Holland with Ajax and Feyenoord. Spain with Real Madrid, Scotland with Celtic, West Germany with Bayern, Portugal with Benfica.

The Nottingham victory is another feather in the already top-heavy cap of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor. Not only does the man truly appear to walk on water, as the fans' banners proclaim, his feet now hardly appear to touch the surface.

But however we praise Forest's achievements, Clough's miracle and the extra piece of one-upmanship this has brought English football, cannot hide the fact that this was an awful game.

The match

1 minute — first free kick — to Malmoe, for Birtles caught offside — the first of many occasions.

7 — Robertson cut in from the left and Birtles outpaced Magnus Andersson to send his shot on to the roof of the net.

8 — Bowyer through and this time Erlandsson conceded the corner — which Moeller dropped under pressure.

10 — Awful mistake by Burns, miscuing a back pass, and Kinnvall should have shot home. Fortunately for Forest Shilton saved the situation after the Swede tried a chip rather than a low drive.

11 — Francis was brought down by Erlandsson and when Malmoe failed to clear the free kick McGovern forced his way through and shot into the side net.

19 — Beautiful Francis-Anderson raid down the right and when Robertson got on to the end of the cross, Roland Andersson wasn't so far off an own goal as he diverted the ball for a corner.

22 — With Forest becoming more and more dominant Malmoe's attack was rarely seen. Their first shot was a 25-yard guesswork effort by Ljungberg which scudded well wide.

25 — Prytz put in Kinnvall and when his clear run was fouled by Viv Anderson, referee Linemayr awarded Malmoe a free kick just outside the penalty box, which was wasted.

29 — Francis pushed a short ball back and McGovern's drive flew just wide of Moeller's right hand post.

31 — Woodcock battled down the right, McGovern passed back across the penalty box and Bowyer, just outside, saw Moeller field his drive at second attempt.

34 — Off went injured Staffan Tapper, on came Claes Malmberg.

41 — Erlandsson blunder allowed Woodcock to go in clear on the right but Moeller dived at his feet for a fine, brave save.

45 — Going into first half injury time and at last Forest got the vital first goal. Bowyer found Robertson out on the left, he went down the line and crossed to the far post where Francis dived in to score.

Ten second later referee Linemayr blew for half-time.

Half-time: Forest 1, Malmoe 0.

55 — The first moment of any goalmouth action in an off-the-boil second half and even that was only a long shot from Prytz which faded well wide.

58 — Malmoe's first corner.

59 — A bad miss by Birtles. Winning a long clearance in the air he was left with all the goal to shoot at and Moeller apparently rooted to his goal-line. Somehow the Forest centre forward blasted a rugby conversion high over the bar.

61 — It should have been number two again. Francis outpaced Malmoe's defence in another dazzling run from the half-way line and when he pulled back his perfect cross, Robertson stepped up to shoot against the post.

68 — Woodcock corkscrewed his pass twice past the same three defenders, but his lob skipped inches wide as Moeller and Birtles scuffled beneath the far post.

77 — A rare moment again for Malmoe. This time it was a free kick out on the left after Viv Anderson fouled Kinnvall. Ljungberg's kick curled across the goal but bent in far too late to worry Shilton.

82 — The other Malmoe substitute — Tommy Andersson for Hansson, who had been totally anonymous.

● *Continued from previous page*

I thought last year's Champions' Final the worst. Compared with Munich, it now appears quite tolerable.

What went so badly wrong in the great glass cobweb of a stadium?

The timing of the goal was one factor.

Ideal as it was for Forest to go into the lead, put one hand and a thumb on the cup, in the seconds before half-time, it killed the game stone dead. Before there had always been the outside chance that Malmoe might somehow — don't ask me how! — have got a goal of their own to make the game interesting.

But it was clear that once they went behind they would be in intense difficulties. Not only because their attack was virtually non-existent — I hardly realised Tommy Hansson was on the field until he was substituted — but because they never once hinted at possessing the recuperative intelligence to claw a way back.

Malmoe looked the innocents. Anders Ljungberg tried hard, but looked clumsy even against Forest's disjointed midfield. And despite being well up on offside tactics — they caught Forest 20 times — there were a number of occasions when Malmoe's unthinking midfielders played to their own men in offside positions with gross lack of forethought, awareness or match intelligence.

The first Swedish club ever to reach a European final did have ready-made excuses. No club has ever gone into the big night so viciously crippled by injuries.

It wasn't enough for their unfortunate English manager Bob Houghton that Bo Larsson and Roy Andersson's huge experience, steadying influence and passing accuracy, was always going to be missing. He knew that he would have to gamble on a half-fit Tore Cervin upfront. But he could never have guessed, even in his wildest nightmares, that on the evening before the Final, during light training, skipper Staffan Tapper would break a bone in a toe.

Tapper stuck it out for 34 minutes, but once he had gone Malmoe were left with boys to play against men.

At the back Magnus Andersson and Kent Joensson worked their offside trap well enough, though the pace and skill of Tony Woodcock and Garry Birtles was always troublesome. Roland Andersson, at right back, was probably their best player, but even he was fortunate that it wasn't until very late in the game that his direct winger, John Robertson, began to thread his game together.

In midfield young Robert Prytz worked himself into the ground but no one else made any impression — save Ljungberg, in a negative way.

Out of their depth, savagely weakened by misfortune, the Swedes kept going remarkably. They chased and harried hard for the 90 minutes, but that determination was no match for Forest's pace and skill.

As for Forest's individuals, one man of course stole the show, Trevor Francis.

Playing without nerves, without tension, as calmly as if he'd been appearing in European competition for years, it was hard to believe that the former Birmingham man was in fact making his debut on this stage.

Clough used Francis as a deep-lying outside right and though this was clearly a successful ploy in the first half, as Francis with his high speed and ball control kept the Malmoe back four stretched, he faded during the second half.

It was a shame he remained shackled to his right wing outpost. Perhaps if he'd been allowed to wander across the field he might have brough a much-needed lightness to Forest's second-half gloom.

Whether you think a player still comparatively inexperienced at International level should be worth £1m, there is no denying that Francis was in a class of his own in Munich. Where, perhaps, would he stand now in International opinion if he hadn't

Peter Shilton (left) and Kenny Burns with the European Cup

FRANCIS WAS OUTSTANDING

spent five years in Birmingham's slough of despond?

His goal was taken as cleanly as anyone could wish. For once Robeftson not only go to the byline but also produced the ideal cross and there was Francis, diving in at the far post with Moeller and Co. helplessly misplaced.

In fact the same pair, working in reverse, brought about Forest's best chance of a second before the second half was a quarter of an hour old.

This time the dazzling run and cross came from Francis, but the ball was pulled back low and though Robertson seemed to have plenty of time to pick the correct spot for his drive past the goalkeeper, his effort rebounded off the foot of the near post.

Forest had other chances, of course, after all, they dominated throughout. Garry Birtles wasted the best of the rest, shooting miles high after winning the ball in the air.

In fact, thinking back to Francis's goal, it was appropriate it should come not only from him, but with a header. For Malmoe won nothing in the air against Forest. Indeed they seemed, from the way they made their half-hearted challenger, that they never even believed they would win anything in the air.

Late in the second half, frustrated presumably at never being able to get in a header, Cervin attempted to catch a high ball with his hands. It speaks volumes for what sort of night Malmoe had, and the total failure of their football, that even then the ball slipped through Cervin's hands.

Having condemned the Final as an anti-climax, perhaps the biggest let-down will be felt by the Swedes. Seeing them in Munich it was impossible to understand how they had beaten Monaco, Kiev, Wisla and FK Austria on their way to the Final. Obviously because they had their better players fit and in form.

But they brought nothing to the European Final save their presence. And though Houghton, in his own way, and his players, in theirs, had struck a blow for the development of Swedish football, they clearly had nothing to offer the rest of Europe.

As with Forest, the applause must be domestic. Both teams have made remarkable strides. But the sum total of the two in opposition was not pretty.

The argument will be made forcibly, I've no doubt, that Forest were disappointing and the general standard of play, because of the poor nature of the opposition.

But that excuse is becoming boring. We used it last year when Liverpool beat a Brugge setting in defence because they had no Lambert up front and no Courant at the back to launch him. Both men were, of course, injured.

(What is this jinx English teams have on their opponents' fitness?)

Teams with pretensions to the grandeur which we used to expect of the Champions' Cup winners, should be able to dictate the course of a game whatever the nature of the opposition — good or bad.

That may be an ideal but teams have reached that standard before, why not again? Indeed, why should Forest not progress to that point? After all, with Liverpool to chase them in the Champions' Cup next season, they can't afford to rest on their laurels.

In the short term will come the discussion over whether Forest should compete in the World Club Cup, whether they can overcome Milan, Real Madrid, Liverpool and the rest next season, whether they will indeed strengthen their squad with Asa Hartford of Manchester City or Andy King of Everton.

But while those subjects are argued out, let's not lose sight of the further conclusion from Munich: that European competition is such big money, such big-time, that the clubs have rejected by their very performances the notion that a knock-out competition is the way to earn their living.

The Champions' Cup certainly isn't dead, but it's time for UEFA to look to its successor.

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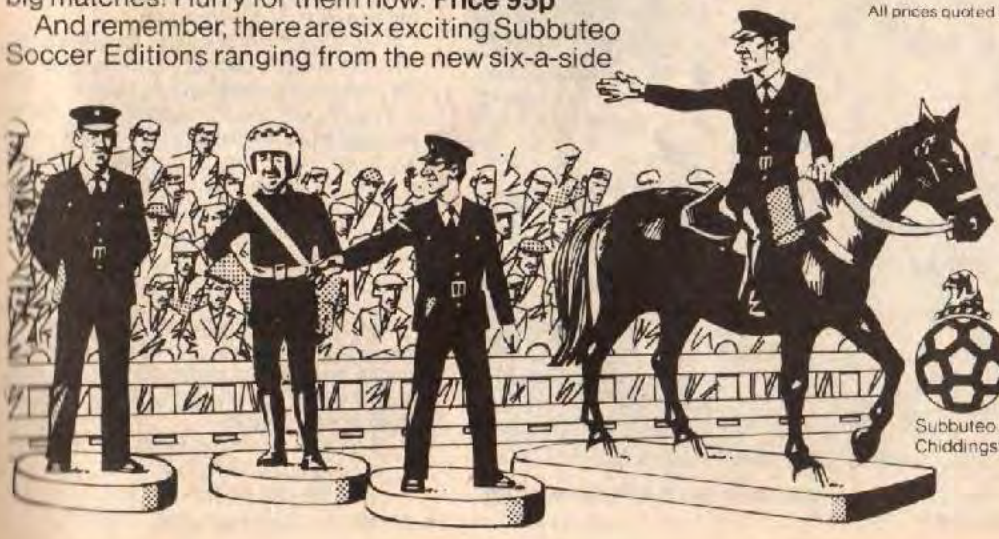

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European Cup Winners Cup Final, Basle May 16

Barcelona — thanks to their 'Tarzan'

Migueli of Barcelona (3) clears from Schmitz of Fortuna during the European Cup Winners Cup Final.

IN THE end it all came down to the massive contrast between the two men wearing the No. 3 jerseys.

In the white corner Gerd Zewe, all skill, poise, adventure, fluidity and attacking extravagance from his role as sweeper. . . .

In the blue (and red) corner Miguel Bernado Bianqueti, known as Migueli, nicknamed Tarzan, a towering presence in the air, a granite cliff in the taclke, first a sweeper, then a stopper . . . above all the security in the heart of defence which tipped the scales and the Cup-winners' Cup in Barcelona.

If anyone needed proof, particularly in northern Germany where he wasn't always admired, that Franz Beckenbauer was a player apart then here it was in the St Jacob stadium in Basle as brave Fortuna Düsseldorf so narrowly missed their prize.

For it was poor Zewe, West Germany's No. 1 sweeper until a league sending-off produced his eviction from the national team, who made the slips which allowed Barcelona to succeed Anderlecht as holders and avenge their defeat by Slovan Bratislava ten years ago in this same competition, in this same stadium.

While Migueli at the one end protected nervy goalkeeper Pedro Artola with an efficiency, watchfulness and ruthlessness which must have scared the daylights out of the German forwards, Zewe at the other end blew it.

Organised

Beckenbauer could afford his sorties into attack and still, miraculously be back in place to keep his defence organised. That was the measure of his greatness — to be in virtually two positions at once. But such gifts are rare and when Zewe was away from his post the Barcelona cat toyed with the German mice.

Some readers, having been thrilled by the drama of the most memorable Cup-winners' final since perhaps Chelsea-Real Madrid in 1971, may think me wrong to place so much emphasis on Zewe's failings.

With some justification you may recall the West Germans' power and resilience, Barcelona's recovery late in the second half when, disorganised because of injury, they produced the character tempered in more European games than any other club to wrest a way back into a game which seemed to be running away from them.

And, while we're talking of mistakes, what of Carlos Rexach's penalty bloomer? What of the shepherded impotence of Hans Krankl?

Yes, yes and yes. These were all factors to be weighed in the balance of a match which produced 100 times the entertainment expected, a spectacle of drama and enthralling competitiveness for the 58,000 fans and millions of television spectators all over Europe.

But . . . Zewe was the deceptive culprit. Deceptive because on the ball he is all confidence and poise and weights his lengthy passes with supreme precision for lively chasers such as Seel and the Allofs brothers. In defence, however, he was found wanting on four vital occasions.

★ *In the fifth minute he was caught in front of his defence, vainly trying to bring the rest forward to spring a ragged offside trap, thus allowing*

Barcelona captain Asensi with the European Cup Winners Cup.

Rexach to send in Jose Sanchez for goal No. 1.

★ *In the 12th minute it was Zewe who lost his nerve, made no attempt at a tackle and blatantly brought down Francisco Carrasco. (Fortunately Rexach fumbled his penalty kick and Jörg Daniel saved to his left).*

★ *In the 13th minute of extra time he was again caught out of place and it was in attempting to get back that he slipped, inadvertently diverting Rexach's shot over Daniel's head, putting Barcelona 3-2 ahead.*

★ *Finally, in the 20th minute of extra time it was Zewe who fatally left Krankl to go to the aid of Balthes, shadowing Carrasco. The pass flew, of course, to Krankl and – unmarked – he shot the goal for 4-2.*

In the attack Zewe was in control but in defence found wanting — a clear contrast to Migueli who, if by no stretch of the imagination adventurous, sealed up the back most effectively, particularly in the twenty minutes after the interval when the Germans had the upper hand.

That they could not capitalise on it was thanks not only to Migueli but also to Barcelona skipper Juan Manuel Asensi.

Asensi had enjoyed a most purposeful first half, scheming virtually every Barcelona attack which came along. He was always there with the one-twos, with the idly-placed chips to the wings, and with the long low punts which gave Krankl the chance to show how well the Germans were shepherding him up the blind alleys.

At half-time Dieter Tippenhauer, the 35-year-old Fortuna coach, gave the order: Sit on Asensi.

And so, without the brains of the operation stultified Barcelona failed to regain their grip and the Germans dominated. Every time the ball was played to his feet Asensi was tackled, harried and chased. He could no longer find the room or the angles he needed and it appeared that Tippenhauer was winning the tactical battle with Barcelona's caretaker coach Joaquin Rife.

But, in the 66th minute, after 20 minutes of back-peddling came the ironic break for which Barcelona had waited. Enrique Costas, one-time sweeper now playing stopper, had to hobble off after making one rough tackle too many for even his own legs.

The obvious course for Barcelona would have been to shift Johan Neeskens into his place in the back four. Instead Rife gambled. He sent Asensi back as sweeper and switched Migueli to stopper — probably his best position anyway.

The switch had important consequences. Asensi, far back in defence, now regained a little of the freedom he needed to probe and prod; and in midfield Barcelona added the fresh legs of Martinez to aid the hard-running of Sanchez and the dynamism of Neeskens at a time when the Germans believed their pace would pay off.

Instead the game slipped back into Spanish hands and there, just about, it stayed.

The Germans had their grand moments of course in the search for their first trophy.

The way they twice hit back at Barcelona in the first half was memorable. In the eighth minute it was Klaus Allofs, just beating brother Thomas to the touch, as Artola only parried a shot from Rüdi Bömmer. In the 40th, after Asensi had headed in a short cross from Carrasco minutes before, it was Wolfgang Seel who displayed the Germans' defiance with the manner in which he touched Heiner Balthes's long swinging cross under Artola's arm.

Even when all seemed lost, with Barcelona 4-2 ahead nearing the end of extra time, Seel set up the grandstand finish after Thomas Allofs had a shot blocked.

Perhaps the Germans might have come even closer had Gerd Zimmermann not had to go off injured in the 85th, but I believe Barcelona had already regained the upper hand, even if their tactics were not always as pure as a European final should demand.

There were crude tackles from both sides, feet left in for too long, trips and body-checks. That only Migueli, Zimmermann and Neeskens were booked was remarkable.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP FINAL
(Basle — May 16)

Barcelona 4 (Sanchez 5, Asensi 35, Rexach 103, Krankl 110)

Fortuna Düsseldorf 3 (K. Allofs 8, Seel 40, 113)

HT: 2-2. 90 min: 2-2. Att. 58,000. Ref: Karoly Palotai (Hungary).

Barcelona: Artola — Zuviria, Migueli, Costas (Martinez 66), Albaladejo (De la Cruz 55) — Sanchez, Neeskens, Asensi (capt) — Rexach, Krankl, Carrasco.

Fortuna: Daniel — Balthes, Zewe (capt), Zimmermann (Lund 85), Brei (Weikl 24) — Kohnen, Bömmer, Schmitz — T. Allofs, K. Allofs, Seel.

UEFA CUP FINAL . . . UEFA CUP

THREE OUT— AT THE TOP!

Berti Vogts

OUT . . . for Udo Lattek. OUT . . . for Allan Simonsen. OUT . . . for Berti Vogts.

But at least the trio who have done so much for Borussia Moenchengladbach in the past four years went the right way — at the top.

Borussia's 2-1 aggregate victory over first-time finalists Red Star Belgrade at the climax of the UEFA Cup, brings further questions, not only about individuals.

Everyone will be keen to see how Lattek succeeds next year at Borussia Dortmund; how Simonsen makes out at Barcelona; and how quickly Vogts settles into his youth coaching role with the DFB.

But equally as interesting will be the new era for Borussia. They are UEFA Cup holders now, but can they replace their heroes as consistently as they have had to in the past?

Before, when the likes of Netzer, Jensen and Stielike left Bökelberg there were ready-made replacements coming along. But, more important, there remained the solid hard core of men such as Vogts, 96 times capped by West Germany, and Simonsen.

Miracle

Now Vogts is retiring and Simonsen is moving on. Can new coach Jupp Heynckes work the miracle again? The evidence suggests he will have problems. Not only is Heynckes facing the tough task of becoming master to the men with whom he played, but Borussia's underlying infirmity was demonstrated in the struggle they had for much of the later stages of the season just above the relegation zone.

They must put that slump behind them quickly, for the rest of the *Bundesliga* will show no mercy even to such a club who have entertained Europe so excitingly for a large chunk of the 1970s.

Vogts, who returned only for the last six weeks of the season after a double leg fracture last summer which was thought to have ended his career, was a decisive influence in Borussia's UEFA Cup success.

Just when they needed his confidence, his determination, his will-to-win, he returned — even if this was partly thanks to the instigation of the other players, particularly Simonsen.

Vogts's resolution will be missed next year!

The future isn't necessarily much brighter for Red Star either. They brought to the UEFA Cup final Yugoslav football not far from its best. But what they lacked in spirit in the first leg and finishing ability in the return, proved vital.

With Yugoslav teams, too, one can't say they will go on improving. Too often a team has barely reached its peak before it is dismembered by eager Western European

WORLD CUP 24

THE 1982 World Cup Finals will see 24 teams in Spain instead of the traditional 16.

That decision — hardly a surprise to long-term readers of World Soccer — was confirmed by the international federation at a meeting in Zurich on May 17.

The implications of FIFA's decision can be considered at length elsewhere, suffice to report now that Europe's representation in the 24 will be 13 nations plus the hosts.

After a first round of six groups of four teams, the top two in each group will enter a second round pool of four groups of three teams. The winners go on to semi-finals, thus restoring to some extent the knock-out element clearly missed under the 1974 and 1978 format.

Fenerbahce won the Turkish Cup, beating Altay Izmir 1-2, 2-0 in the two-leg final.

FINAL . . .

clubs, tempting away the key men who have passed their 28th birthdays.

This could well be Red Star's fate.

Frequently in past years the UEFA Cup winners have gone on to more success in the Champions' Cup. Liverpool, Borussia themselves and Brugge are three examples. Juventus and PSV Eindhoven, too, thought of the UEFA Cup as a stepping stone towards greater things, though in their cases they were disappointed.

For Borussia and Red Star there is no such beckoning future. They could even face each other some time next season in the UEFA Cup again — and after this final it would be an unwise man who would bet against the Slavs taking revenge.

Certainly for a large part of the first leg in the Belgrade Maracana it was Red Star who dominated with that impressively Yugoslav mixture of iron tackling and delightful footwork.

Short cross

It took them little more than 20 minutes to go ahead. Slavoljub Muslin engineered a sweeping move from midfield which was carried on by Vladimir Petrovic. Muslin stole up unnoticed in the outside-right position, cut in to the byline and Milos Sestic, half-turning, poked in the short cross.

Four minutes later and Sestic was close to a second, heading just over the bar, and in all the first half the Germans came close only once, when goalkeeper Aleksander Stojanovic was troubled to palm away a 35th-minute drive from Christian Kulik.

The second half hardly began more promisingly for Borussia. Horst Wohlers pulled back Blagojevic and was booked. While that was sinking in Petrovic clipped in a wicked free kick, but Milosavljevic miskicked in front of goal.

Full-back Nikki Jovanovic then forged through with a brilliant run only to see goalkeeper Wolfgang Kneib block his angled shot, and when the corner came over Dusan Savic was just wide.

It seemed the Yugoslavs were in control. But the longer the game went on the more cautious they became, the quieter their fans grew, and on the hour Borussia hit back.

It was a disaster for Red Star. Simonsen foxed a couple of defenders on the left and when Wohlers curled in a hopeful cross, Ivan Jurisic dived back to head astonishingly past his own goalkeeper.

After that the Slavs were finished. Kulik mis-hit a shot, which fortunately for Red Star ricocheted off Stojanovic's foot, then — after a blunder by Miletovic — Ewald Lienen wasted a golden chance to win it for Borussia. Again Stojanovic was lucky to make the save.

Bookings only for Miletovic and Simonsen for dissent made it a comparatively easy night for Scottish referee Ian Foote.

There was only one booking in the second leg in Düsseldorf — that of Nedeljko Milosavljevic for a foul on Winfried Schäfer — which was surprising considering the passion generated by the players despite the quagmire of a pitch.

By this time, of course, the Germans were favourites, but Red Star had a record for doing well in away legs and in the event a little more luck in front of goal could have brought a surprise victory.

There were some 10,000 Yugoslav *gastarbeiter* in the crowd, making most of the noise, and referee Alberto Michelotti provoked a howl of protest when he awarded Borussia a penalty after 18 minutes.

Poor Jurisic, the own-goal scorer in the first leg, was again the culprit, this time bringing down Simonsen who got up to score from the spot after the referee had waved aside the Slav players' angry protests.

Later Red Star coach Branko Stankovic called the decision "nonsensical".

In fact within two minutes the Slavs were nearly level. Vladimir Petrovic slipped into the Borussia defence and shot just too high, while Borussia squandered an even better chance in the 36th minute, Rudi Gores did the difficult part, slipping round goalkeeper Aleksander Stojanovic, but then shot wide when it seemed easier to score.

As the game progressed, so the Yugoslav team assumed greater dominance. They had more corners — seven to four — earned more free kicks — 20 to 16 — yet the ball just would not go in.

Crossed

On the hour Dusan Savic crossed from the left only for Milosavljevic to miss-hit his shot hopelessly in front of an open goal, then in the 83rd minute Slavoljub Muslin crashed in a drive from the edge of the box which left goalkeeper Wolfgang Kneib standing, but came out off the woodwork.

After a corner Milos Sestic — who had only appeared in the second half after a half-game suspension for a hotel incident — shot narrowly over from a corner, then Muslin, with three minutes remaining, missed an open goal.

It was all too little, too late. As Michelotti's final whistle sounded Wilfried Hannes lifted little Vogts into the air in triumph.

Not only had Borussia, in their third UEFA Cup final, won for the second time in four years, they had also assured themselves a £4,000-a-man bonus.

Borussia will be back next year — it's the only way for them into Europe following their worrying league season. But what sort of team will they bring?

UEFA CUP FINAL

First leg — Belgrade — May 9
Red Star 1 (Sestic 21)
Borussia Moenchengladbach 1 (Jurisic own goal 60)
HT: 1-0. Att: 87,500. Ref: Ian Foote (Scotland).

Red Star: Stojanovic — Jovanovic, Miletovic, Jurisic, Jovin — Muslin (Krmpotic 88), Petrovic, Blagojevic, Milosavljevic (Milovanovic 88) — Savic, Sestic.

Borussia Mg: Kneib — Vogts, Hannes, F. Schäffer, Ringles — W. Schäfer, Kulik, Nielsen (Danner 75), Wohlers (Gores 8;) — Simonsen, Lienen.

Second leg — Düsseldorf — May 23
Borussia Mg 1 (Simonsen 18 pen)
Red Star 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 45,000. Ref: Alberto Michelotti (Italy).

Borussia: Kneib — Vogts, Hannes, F. Schäffer, Ringles — W. Schäfer, Kulik (Köppel 59), Gores, Wohlers — Simonsen, Lienen.

Red Star: Stojanovic — Jovanovic, Miletovic, Jurisic, Jovin — Muslin, Petrovic, Blagojevic, Milovanovic (Sestic 46) — Savic, Milosavljevic.

BORUSSIA MG WIN 2-1 ON AGGREGATE

Argentina 'win' World Cup replay

A STOP by Ubaldo Fillol from Jan Peter s penalty secured Argentina an 8-7 spot kicks win over Holland in the World Cup Final repeat in Berne

The teams had finished 0-0 after 90 minutes in the match arranged to mark FIFA s 75th anniversary

Despite the goalless conclusion the match was played at a high tempo with plenty of exciting football to match the occasion. Star was Argentina s brilliant 18-year-old forward Diego Maradona from Argentinos Juniors

★ Full details of this match and more news of Argentina s European tour in World Soccer next month

* * *

FOR COSMOS read Aztecs that s the latest in the saga over whether Johan Cruyff will join the has-beens' drain to the United States

The 32-year-old Holland star who retired last year seemed set to take up a one-year deal with Cosmos, but talks broke down and Aztecs became favourites to help provide the cash contract to help him overcome financial problems which followed unfortunate business ventures

The move would, of course, reunite Cruyff with his former Holland, Ajax and Barcelona coach, Rinus Michels

* * *

STILL in the U.S. Franz Beckenbauer is likely to be out for two months after having a cartilage removed from his right knee. Beckenbauer injured the knee six weeks ago and aggravated it in training

Peter Taylor

CHALK AND CHEESE BUT WHAT A PAIR!

BRIAN CLOUGH has become an all-too-familiar figure in English football.

But whatever his achievements with Derby and Nottingham Forest, he readily admits it wouldn't have been possible without the assistance of Peter Taylor.

And that partnership was grandly acknowledged by Clough when he stood aside for 48-year-old Taylor to lead Nottingham Forest out at Wembley in the League Cup Final against Southampton, while Clough walked anonymously to his seat with the reserves.

Why? "I led the team out against Liverpool last year," said Clough. "So it was Peter's turn this time. Next season it'll be my turn again."

And that illustrates the enormous respect these men have for each other. They could hardly be more different, yet for 24 years — with just two short interruptions — they have worked together, shared the same dreams, tried to inspire others to a brand of football which is not only successful but exciting.

Beliefs which reached a climax in Forest's appearance in Munich in the Champions' Cup Final.

Reserve

Clough is one of the most famous men in England. Yet he says of Taylor: "I couldn't manage without him. I am the shop window, but he is the merchandise in the back of the shop."

It was 1955 when they first met at Middlesbrough. Clough was a 20-year-old centre forward, Taylor a . . . goalkeeper. He had been born in Nottingham (!), played for Forest in the league at 16, then moved to Coventry. In 1955 he went to Middlesbrough and was the first player there to acknowledge the ability of a young, local reserve centre forward named Brian Clough.

Several team-mates laughed at Taylor's praise of the new boy. But the joke was on them when Clough went on to become one of the league's most dangerous goalscorers, and play for England.

Taylor's judgment has been proved right and ever since their management partnership began, in 1964 at Fourth Division Hartlepool, their work has followed a pattern which mirrors that early first meeting. For while Taylor's judgment of players is put to work sizing up men to buy, Clough's role is to provide the motivation to turn 11 men into a winning unit.

And that is vital.

"We are both winners," says Taylor. In fact it was because he narrowly failed to match a promise to take Brighton out of the Third Division that he resigned as their manager in July 1976.

But in keeping that promise Taylor was also paving the way to rebuild the most explosive partnership in English football. He had been in charge of Brighton on his own for two years, while Clough — who had originally gone there with him — had accepted an offer from Leeds in 1974.

Taylor had been offered a job at Leeds, inevitably. But he felt he should honour his

by Keir Radnedge

contract at Brighton and the two men just weren't the same, divided.

Without Taylor at his side Clough ran into all sorts of trouble in following Don Revie at Leeds, and was sacked after only 44 days. Next stop was dull Second Division Forest, and Clough hardly set the town alight.

He admitted, when Taylor rejoined him in 1976, that: "We've been apart for two years and it feels like ten."

Soon the magic was working again, the magic that had first cast its spell on Fourth Division Hartlepool. When new manager Clough appointed his old friend Taylor — then manager of non-league Burton — as assistant, Hartlepool were almost dead on their feet.

They risked slipping out of the League altogether. But soon Clough and Taylor had taken them to safety and pointed them towards the higher divisions.

It wasn't easy. The volatile Clough was involved in many arguments with directors. Always it was the cool Taylor who would pull him away from trouble, calm him down and remind him of their ambitions and the need to keep their feet on the ground.

Derby, bottom of the Second Division, heard of these miracle workers and transported them to the Baseball Ground. Clough and Taylor turned them in no time at all into Second Division champions, First Division champions and Champions' Cup semi-finalists.

But as Taylor has admitted: "When we reached the top it didn't bring the contentment and happiness I had expected. Instead it brought greed, too much publicity, too many people trying to be too friendly. . . ."

It also brought envy and in the most unhappy and tormented day of Derby's history, Clough and Taylor walked out. For a year they tried to begin again at Brighton. Then the call of Leeds, champions and European Cup contenders, proved too much for Clough and he went north while Taylor stayed behind.

History

The rest is recent history. Clough failed at Leeds, and Taylor failed at Brighton. Yet together again they worked the miracle at Forest, bringing them out of the Second Division by a whisker, taking them to the championship, to the League Cup twice, and on to the glory of a place in the Champions' Cup history books.

They won't make the mistake of going their separate ways again.

"We should never have split when Brian went to Leeds," says Taylor. "We work well together and we agree on the basics of the game. We know just how we want our footballers to play — with skill and style."

And it is with the skill and style of men such as Peter Shilton, Garry Birtles, John Robertson, Kenny Burns and Trevor Francis that the partnership of Clough and Taylor can look confidently ahead — as well as proudly back.

Brian Clough

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BFC Dynamo chase record

WITH only six league rounds remaining BFC Dynamo Berlin were firmly in line for a sensational double in East Germany.

Unbeaten in twenty consecutive league matches since the season began, that in itself an all time record since the *DDR Oberliga* began in 1948, Dynamo were eight points clear of second placed Dynamo Dresden the reigning champions.

Dynamo Dresden have themselves been beaten only once in league matches, but Dynamo Berlin are underlining their overall superiority by topping the *Nachwuchs Oberliga* (Under 21 league) too, though closely pressed here by both the Dresden club and 1st FC Magdeburg.

Dynamo Berlin also had a fine run in the DFV Pokal, beating unknown Chemie Schwedt 6-0 in the first round, and then in successive two-legged rounds eliminating Oberliga clubs FC Union Berlin (15-2 on aggregate); FC Hansa Rostock (11-2) and Dynamo Dresden 2-1 (1-0 and 1-1) in a hard fought semi- final.

Spearheading Dynamo Berlin's championship bid were right winger Hans-Jurgen Riediger with 13 liga goals and Wolf-Rudiger Netz with 14, though Dieter Kuhn of 1.FC Lokomotive Leipzig shared the top scorers place with Netz on 14. Internationals Joachim Streich (13) and Martin Hoffmann (11), both from 1st FC Magdeburg were also well in the running.

As usual, newly promoted FC Hansa Rostock look like dropping straight down again while Stahl Riesa who came up with them are almost certain to stay in the top flight for at least one more term, thanks largely to Eberhard Lippmann who has sored nine vital goals for them.

Dynamo Berlin's first defeat came in somewhat tragic circumstances for had it been in a league match it would hardly have mattered with such a commanding lead but as so often happens, form counted for nothing against tradition in the Fussball verband Cup Final.

Battle

Magdeburg, third in the league had played in only five Cup Finals, and had never lost one of them, and were Cup holders from last season. They provided really stern opposition in a close fought battle and at the end of ninety minutes the score sheet remained blank.

Playing 'away' in Berlin, Magdeburg scored in extra time with a header from a corner by 33 years old Wolfgang Sequin, and then despite tremendous pressure from BFC, they hung on to take the Cup again by 1-0.

Manager of Magdeburg is now Klaus Urbanczyk, a former international who was badly injured in Holland some years ago when the hotel the club were staying in caught fire.

The position of Georg Buschner, a hero when the DDR qualified for the 1974 World Cup and then beat West Germany 1-0, and retaining his reputation when he led his men to success in the last Olympics, looked very precarious indeed at one stage this season.

The national squad began with a string of defeats, first visiting Iraq where in two games they were saved from defeat only by a last minute goal from Joachim Streich (1-1) and then in a second match lost 1-2. Then the full DDR side met Bulgaria's Olympic Games team in Bourgas and went down 0-1 before losing 3-0 against Hungary in Budapest.

At that point, facing a critical European Championship match against Poland in Leipzig and with a 55,000 crowd ready to criticise if things went wrong and millions watching on TV, Herr Buschner made five changes. One of the most significant was to bring in 35 year old goalkeeper Hans-Ullrich Grapenthin from FC Carl Zeiss Jena (for only his 6th cap). Buschner also made four other changes but Poland took an early lead through Zbigniew Boniek and they went in at the break one down.

For the second half Jurgen Pommerenke of Magdeburg came on in midfield and the game began to turn. After 50 minutes Streich got the equaliser 13 minutes later Litz Lindemann (also from Zeiss) got what proved to be the winner at 2-1 and give DDR a respectable position in their group table.

Krakow Cup run

CHAMPIONS Wisla Krakow are having a disappointing season in the Polish championship, occupying 13th place in the 16 club league. But they have fought their way through to the final of the FA Cup to retain a chance of playing in Europe next season, and meet Arka Gdynia in the final in Lublin. Their hopes rest very largely on the shoulders of 27 year old striker Kazimierz Kmiecik who shares top scorers place in the league with 10 goals.

Roman Ogaza, the international centre forward, has stayed in the top flight by being transferred from relegated GKS Tychy to Szombierki Bytom and vying for a place in the national team has scored nine league goals, while Andrzej Szarmach, so disappointing in Argentina, is level with Kmiecik on ten. Grzegorz Lato who plays with Szarmach for Stal Mielec is nowhere in the hunt in league games but chipped in the vital goal for Poland that gave them a 1-1 draw with Hungary — his 39th international goal in 76 matches.

But the outstanding team of the season thus far is Ruch Chorzow, giants not long ago who have had a lean time in the last few years. Since the break they have overhauled Odra Opole.

Joachim Streich (left) who scored key goals for East Germany, away to Iraq (1-1) and the equaliser in the 2-1 European Championship win over Poland.

NEHODA STILL INJURED

ZDENEK NEHODA, the Dukla centre forward with 53 caps, has been out for more than a month since being injured after an hours play in the game against France in Bratislavia. A capacity 50,000 crowd saw the Czechs win a vital game 2-0 with Antonin Panenka producing a penalty exactly like the one that clinched the European Championship in 1976, dipping and bending. Dukla's Franktisek Stambacher scored the other goal with a rocket-like shot from around 25 yards.

Later the Czechs beat Luxembourg away by 3-0 where France had only won 3-1.

Dukla's championship prospects took a knock with the injury to Nehoda for at the time he was the top league scorer and with 106 league goals to his credit the top marksman still active. The Czech record for one man will probably be held for ever by Josef 'Pepi' Bican who scored 218, mostly for Slavia.

Ladoslav Vizek, normally an outside right, stood in for Nehoda for Dukla but the league leaders were surprisingly beaten 2-0 at Pilzen and Kroupa has crept into top scorers place with 11 goals. This defeat cuts Dukla's lead at the top to three points, and cup holders Banik Ustrava in second place have a game in hand from the fixture postponed before their Cup Winners Cup sem-final with Fortuna Dusseldorf.

Third placed Brno, coached by Josef Masopust, pulled in the top crowd the day Dukla crashed at Pilzen before only 3,000. Brno attracted 12,500 to their home game against lowly Inter-Bratislava but could only draw 0-0.

At the bottom of the table it is the usual relegation candidates fighting it out with Presov and Trencin looking the most likely to go, but surprisingly, Slovan Bratislavia, the top team of recent years, now coached by Anton Malatinsky who led Spartak Trnava to their triumphs of the sixties, are too close to the dropping pair for comfort. Slovan have lost a string of internationals.

FK Austria-Memphis stretch their lead

CHAMPIONS and league leaders FK Austria-Memphis are walking away with the league again and after beating second placed SC Rapid 4-1 they stretched their lead to 11 points. Only 6,000 people watched the big Viennese derby which underlines the acute problem of the Austrian game.

When they formed their ten club *Bundesliga*, the FA hoped that the best players would naturally gravitate to the top ten teams and thus improve the general standard of play and pull in bigger crowds. But with five of the big league clubs in Vienna, and no improvement in the standard of play, the crowds just will not come. Thus the best players, as Hans Krankl did last summer, go abroad while the top Austrian clubs sign second raters from Turkey, Yugoslavia and even Argentina and Uruguay but the public simply will not buy a second rate product and at the end of the season it seems certain that more Austrian players will leave for foreign clubs, lowering the standard still further.

Even national team manager Karl Stotz has been to West Germany, looking around for a coaching or managerial job, and SC Rapid, the only club without a sponsor, are desperately looking around to find some way of improving their income.

The FA Cup has still not captured the Austrian fans and underlining this fact are this year's finalists, bottom of the league Swarowski Wacker Innsbruck and Admira/Wacker one of the smaller Vienna clubs.

OLYMPIC GAMES —A SICK JOKE!

by Leslie Vernon

THE latest farcical regulations governing the current Olympic Games Football tournament are turning this competition into a sick joke. For no discernible reason, FIFA decided to bar so-called World Cup players from the tournament, whether they played in the Finals in Argentina or merely in the qualifying tournament.

Since no age limit applies, this is an obvious, clumsy attempt to prevent "professionals" playing in the allegedly amateur Olympics. It is conveniently ignored that there is no such animal — in any sport! — as a true blue amateur, who in his spare time, is able to reach Olympic standards.

Athletes of the Eastern European bloc are State sponsored, there are large grants from Universities in America, and in other countries, partly the state, partly private industry, look after the genuine candidates for Olympic medals.

All this is common knowledge, I merely chronicle it here to underline the idiocy concerning the football tournament.

Players in Hungary, for instance, are not amateurs, whether they were good enough to be selected for the World Cup or not. Laszlo Fekete, the Dozsa striker, for example, is now considered eligible to play in the Olympic tournament, but his two colleagues in the same forward-line, Fazekas and Torocsik are not!

The Spaniards are fielding a team of full-professionals in their qualifying matches, but the Committee ignores that, saying that it is up to the National Association to guarantee the status of their representatives.

In other words, the ancient warriors of the Olympic movement are passing the buck, and look the other way when it suits them.

Admittedly, they are in an impossible position, because they are vainly trying to live by an outdated rules-book in order to make this four-yearly charade a viable proposition.

Pretence

To my mind, it is high time that the Olympic Games were declared "open" to all sportsmen, and the hideous pretence of "amateurism" was discarded. If FIFA do not wish to create a rival to the World Cup, they could easily make the Olympics an Under-21 competition for professionals, shamateurs and amateurs alike.

As I said before in this column, to add insult to injury, a curious draw put nearly all the strong Eastern Europeans into one qualifying group, and Hungary were paired with Rumania in order to win the privilege of playing-off for a place in the Moscow Finals against Poland and Czechoslovakia.

The first-leg was played in Pitesti, where 22,000 people saw the home team win 2-0. Dr. Karoly Lakat's selection suffered through injuries to several players, including Szokolai, the new Ferencvaros star.

But this is no valid excuse, the team played extremely badly, especially in the second-half, when only some heroic goalkeeping by Katziri saved the Magyars from an even bigger defeat.

Rab had to come off with a shoulder injury in the 37th minute, but substitute Baranyi was just as uncertain as the young Fradi defender. Gyimesi was ineffective in a "withdrawn outside right" role, and the two genuine (?) forwards, Izso and Fekete, never seriously troubled the Rumanian defence.

First goal

Iovanescu scored the first goal in the 29th minute, and Radu got the second in the 74th. Now Hungary must win by three clear goals on May 30 at Diosgyor to progress, but on the evidence of this pathetic performance, this is highly unlikely, unless . . . There is always an "unless" in football . . .

Rumania: Speriatu — Zamfir, Stefanescu, Cirstea, Ivan — Augustin, Barbulescu (Raducanu), Iovanescu — Nicolae, Radu, Stan (Camataru).

Hungary: Katzirz — Szanto, Salamon, Rab (Baranyi), Kutasi — Gyimesi, Olah, Tatar (Nagy), Poczik — Izso, Fekete.

I would be delighted to report that while the Olympic team suffered, the full national side prospered, but . . . why should I kid you?

As usual, they did well in friendlies, but when it came to the nitty-gritty of the European Championship, a disappointing performance was dished out to the 25,000 faithfuls in the Nepstadion. Hungary beat E. Germany 3-0 earlier in the season, then they travelled to Poland, where in the pouring rain, drew 1-1 with the hosts in Chorzow.

Two creditable results which augured well for the future, especially for the vital European Championship encounter in Tbilisi against chief rivals, the USSR.

In the mild euphoria brought about by these matches, it was almost forgotten that Greece must be beaten first in Budapest to give the Magyars any chance at all to top the group at the end of the day. We must not forget that four inexplicable points had already been dropped in Finland and Greece — two countries which have never beaten Hungary before!

For the "home leg" against Greece (recent 4-1 losers in Israel!), team manager Kovacs had to make do without Pinter (badly injured) and Nyilasi (ill). He picked his most experienced side, with Bela Kovacs, the hard-working MTK-VM midfielder, the only newcomer.

Defended

But the Greeks came for a point, defended stoutly, and the nearest Hungary came to scoring was when Balint hit the post — 0-0.

"We still don't know how to break down massed defences," was Kovacs' comment, and in all honesty, no one can blame him for the poor showing. If the best players in Hungary cannot beat Greece on home soil, the situation is so desperate, that the team manager's identiy is almost immaterial.

After all, Dr. Karoly Lakat has an excellent track record, and even he couldn't do much with the present bunch when they faced Rumania. . . . But, of course, the proverbial pendulum might swing again — Hungary might win in Tbillisi, and the Olympic hopefuls might put it over the Rumanians in Diosgyor. Or as my grandmother used to say, pigs might fly . . .

League Tables

See page 50

Speaking Personally with LESLIE VERNON

CUP FINAL week started early for me this year. The vagaries of fate through the courtesy of Tyne Tees Television so ordained that I should spend some time in Newcastle, which gave me the opportunity to see the vital promotion match between the local team and Brighton. A Press ticket was duly waiting for me at the entrance, and then all I had to do was to climb an ancient spiral staircase for approximately ten minutes to reach a little stuffy room which is known loftily at St. James's Park as the Press Box!

Picture a wooden table made at the turn of the century, laden with tea cups and sandwiches — a generous gesture. Then proceed further forward where, behind glass windows, there is a narrow room for about 20 journalists from which they can observe the pitch far below, and subsequently inform the earth's population of the events taking place there.

Unfortunately, a large corner of this very same pitch is invisible from this prehistoric Press Box, so if a player does anything remotely remarkable there, his feat would go unrecorded. As it happened, the 11 yellow "midgets" representing Brighton were far superior to the lifeless bunch of Newcastle players, and partly by the courtesy of an unusually inept goalkeeper, they scored three times in the first half.

The second period in our little haven in the sky was taken-up by having tea and listening to the progress of matches involving the other promotion candidates. Finally, Brighton won 3-1, it is First Division football for them next season!

Manager Alan Mullery was ecstatic in-and-out of the dressing room, kissing and embracing everyone in sight — even those players he will surely replace next season. But this was no time for cynicism.

The Brighton hangers-on, mainly property speculators and their off-spring, were equally optimistic concerning the club's future. One of them paid the ultimate accolade to Mullery: "He knocks Cloughie into a cocked-hat."

A slight exaggeration perhaps, but two promotions in three seasons is no mean achievement, the popular "Mullers" deserves all the praise that he can collect, there may be hard times ahead. . . .

On the following Thursday, I attended the traditional Football Writers' "Player of the Year" dinner at the Cafe Royal. Our choice for this valued prize was Kenny Dalglish, surely a worthy recipient. The award was initiated in 1948, when the winner was Stanley Matthews, and the old maestro was invited this year to come home from Malta to present the statuette to the Scottish forward.

Indeed, it is a tradition that all the previous winners sit at the top table, and to see them together inevitably fills one with nostalgia. Matthews, Mercer, Bobby Charlton, Blanchflower, Finney, Moore, Banks, etc., represent the last 30 years of British football at its very best, and more recent winners such as Keegan and Dalglish seem capable of preserving the high standards of their predecessors.

The evening, attended by over 500 people (many more were unable to acquire a ticket), had a distinctly Liverpool flavour as the chief speaker was Bill Shankly, and the light relief was supplied by that well-known "Kopite", Jimmy Tarbuck.

Old fox "Shanks" is always worth listening to, and on this occasion he allowed us a glimpse into his private sorrow — retirement. It seems that he now bitterly regrets that controversial decision, finds difficulty in spending his days inactive.

"I was so desperate," he said, "that I went to see Everton play." He obviously didn't go to see Derby, because he lavished praise on Tommy Docherty's influence on his players. "They all have a certain swagger, a style. Look at Peter Osgood. He is deceptive, he's slower than you think!"

I suspect that Matthews is still a better footballer at the age of 64 than a speaker, but he managed to hand over the trophy to Dalglish, who in turn, thanked everybody connected with his career, including a beaming Jock Stein, his mentor at Celtic. He even thanked his children who wrote the speech for him — a nice touch!

'A KISS IS —A SIGH

Friday night was "music night" at the Palace! An over 51,000 crowd gathered to cheer the "Eagles" into Division One. All the young Crystal Palace lads had to do was not to lose to Burnley. As the saying goes, you could practically touch the nervous tension, and every time the Burnley "dangermen" (Kindon, Leighton James, Noble) ventured into the Palace half, a deathly hush fell over the immense gathering.

But the football Palace played impressed me. Terry Venables has built a side on the Liverpool pattern — solid at the back with an outstanding goalkeeper, patient and methodical in midfield. They know how to keep possession — an unusual virtue for English teams — and if an attack runs into a cul-de-sac, they bring the ball back, play it across the park, and try again, probing, chiselling away at the opposing defence.

These methods brought two excellent goals in the second-half, when the ever-inventive Vince Hillaire crossed for Walsh to head home, and later, when Swindlehurst beat Stevenson with a low shot.

Incredible scenes followed as the fans invaded the pitch (I

RIGHT: Graham Rix and Liam Brady celebrate (!) Arsenal's 3-2 win over Manchester United. BELOW: Arsenal's victorious squad.

Frank Stapleton (9) of Arsenal heads his side's second goal against Manchester United in the FA Cup Final.

S JUST A KISS H IS JUST A SIGH'

think the referee is still out there somewhere . . .) and later, when the players appeared like conquering heroes in the directors' box. Here, the hangers-on were down-to-earth Cockneys, drinking champagne out of beer mugs, celebrating not only promotion, but the championship of the division as well.

But Terry Venables was given no respite by the journalists. "How do you think you will do in the First Division?" asked one very distinguished colleague. His line of thinking was understandable, but wasn't the question just a bit cruel? Here was a man whose dreams had just come true, but he wasn't allowed more than half-an-hour to savour it before he was confronted with the tasks of tomorrow.

This is the tragedy or perhaps the fascination of sport — there is always the next match, the next season, Cups, titles must be defended. Nobody is allowed to cage the "blue bird" of success. "What are you going to do next?" remains the inevitable, nagging question. . . .

Foresight

Before the Cup Final, the London *"Evening Standard"* published a series of "ghosted" articles by Brian Talbot, the Arsenal midfieler. Apart from forecasting the result — 3-2 — with remarkable foresight, Talbot also said that the Arsenal camp is hoping that Manchester United will make a pre-match tactical mistake.

I regret to say that this "hope" was amply fulfilled. (My regret doesn't concern the result which was immaterial to me, but the fact that I feel obliged to criticise Dave Sexton's strategy.)

Incredibly, no player was detailed to mark Liam Brady or the equally effective Graham Rix. Equally incredible, Brian Greenhoff wasn't included in the team (if he wasn't fully fit, what was he doing on the substitutes' bench?), while Nicholl and Macari played, the former not quite good enough and latter well past his best.

Gary Bailey in goal had a wretched game for United, although the commentators were too polite to attach any blame to him. Generally, it was a well above average Cup Final, and, of course, the last five minutes transformed it into an all-time classic.

Before the first Arsenal goal, Price found himself completely unmarked in the United penalty box, and his pass was pounced upon by both Talbot and Sunderland. No matter who got the final touch — it only counted as one goal! Before the second goal, Brady, without any apparent effort, played himself free on the right, floated a ball across and Stapleton headed home.

Where was Martin Buchan? What did McQueen do to stop the opposition? Why did Bailey stay on his line, practically motionless? Such terrible defensive cover asks to be punished, and those who argue that United's mild territorial advantage deserved more reward, misunderstand the decisive factors of a football match.

Arsenal made *their* mistake when the bench generously rewarded Steve Walford for a season's good work with five minutes' play at Wembley in a victorious Cup Final. The management thought that the match was over, this sentimental substitution communicated this feeling to the players, who subsequently relaxed.

United, by persevering with their attacks, suddenly found some space, and first McQueen — a lone red shirt among six yellow ones — pushed the ball past Jennings, then Sammy McIlroy equalised — 2-2 with less than a minute to play! Whatever happened earlier in the game, such a grandstand finish deserved "extra-time" at least!

But as the old song says: "You must remember this, a kiss is still a kiss, a sigh is just a sigh" . . . and as "time goes by" it may cost you the F.A. Cup! While the United players were still engaged in a "love-in", Brady swept the ball to Rix, his magnificent cross eluded Bailey's misjudged dive and Albiston's outstretched foot, but Alan Sunderland swept it into goal.

A great crescendo to an interesting week, in which I saw enough celebrations — grown men kissing each other, flag-waving and delirium induced by football — to last me through the summer, which brings me back to Jimmy Tarbuck and his unprintable story, which involves an Australian footballer, a kangaroo and a man with a wooden leg . . . Even Sir Alf Ramsey laughed, but nobody kissed him. I wonder why?

WEST GERMANY by Arthur Rotmil

NATIONAL T EUROPEAN

THE National team's chances of winning the European Championship qualifying group 7 rose sharply after the relatively easy 2-0 win over Wales at Wrexham. This was a timely success for the recent disappointing performances have sparked off severe criticism in the media and by the fans about the "lack of application" shown by some international players.

The team responded against Wales with a convincing display and having survived the expected early onslaught by the hosts, the Germans gained confidence, after Zimmermann had headed them into the lead after 30 minutes. Thereafter they controlled the game and when Fischer added a second goal again with a header, there was only one team in it. The outstanding German player was right back Manfred Kaltz, who was continually storming forward and he provided both centres from which the goals came.

Manager Jupp Derwall sighed with obvious relief at the finish, for he too, came in for some strong criticism on account of his selections and tactical methods. Derwall restored in goal Sepp Maier (deposed against Turkey after leading the players' revolt at Bayern Munich) and in his 93rd international the popular Sepp also captained the side. Most interesting was the omission of the talented schemer Hansi Müller, who it was feared might not relish the tough tackling of the Welsh.

At centre forward Klaus Fischer resumed his place and rewarded the national coach with a splendidly taken goal. There was also a tactical surprise, for Cullmann played "libero" (sweeper) and not Stielike, who was given a roving commission in front of the defence and also detailed to mark the Welsh captain Terry Yorath.

After this result the West Germans, who haven't conceded a goal yet, now completed their away programme and can look forward to receiving Wales, Turkey and Malta next season with justifiable optimism. But any suggestion that Derwall was in danger of losing his position were unfounded — after all, the Germans have never yet sacked a national team manager.

In over 50 years they had only three other managers — Dr. Otto Nerz, Sepp Herberger and Helmet Schön, and they all retired because of advanced age!

In the *Bundesliga* championship, at the time of writing, only three clubs still had a chance to win the title: VfB Stuttgart, Hamburger SV and 1.FC Kaiserslautern. Sadly, as already reported, Stuttgart are losing their fine team coach Jürgen Sundermann who is going back to Switzerland to take over Grasshoppers Zurich. His place will be taken by Lothar Buchmann, who has done so well with the part-timers of Darmstadt — but alas, failed to save them from relegation.

There have in fact been several managerial changes during the last month. They were sparked off by Schalke who engaged the Hungarian-born Gyula Lorant, formerly boss at Bayern Munich. Eintracht Brunswick dismissed Werner Olk and replaced him with Heinz Lucas. VfL Bochum parted company with Heinz Höher, whose place will be taken by Helmuth Johannsen, returning from managing Grasshoppers in Switzerland.

Perhaps the biggest surprise was the departure of Udo Lattek from Borussia Mönchengladbach; he signed a one-year contract with Borussia Dortmund. Lattek's place in Gladbach has been filled by Borussia's former international forward and the club's record scorer (195 Bundesliga goals) Jupp Heynckes. He was Lattek's assistant and is fully qualified to lead the senior squad.

Before eyebrows are raised over this incredible round-about, let me explain that in West Germany team coaches, like players, are signed only on short term contracts. The position of team manager in West Germany is quite different to that in England, for instance. That is why it is pointless to compare them, for their duties and authority are not on the same level.

In West German professional football a team manager called a "Trainer" is in fact merely a coach, responsible solely for preparing the players physically, technically and tactically. He has no other function, nor authority — all other matters are taken care of by a Technical Director called over there a "Manager".

In Cologne the coach is Hennes Weisweiler (the "Trainer") and Karl-Heinz Thielen the "Manager". Thielen is responsible for arranging players' contracts, discussing their personal problems and all the administrative work in the running of the club. But his involvement with footballing matters is only superficial and he buys and sells players only with the full approval of the board who have worked out a club budget for the whole season and stick to it.

Supervises

In England a manager is running the club, he acts as PR, he buys and sells players, supervises the office staff, but also coaches players (with assistants), selects the team and looks after each footballer's welfare personally. The coaching staff in England has actually little say in the running of the team, although some English clubs are now attempting to introduce the system as practiced in Germany and in most other European countries.

Hence the constant managerial changes in Germany, where a team chief ("Trainer") is assessed only on his ability to produce a successful team — no more. If he fails, then like a player he too, is released and a successor sought.

Two most interesting player moves have hit the headlines recently: Borussia Mönchengladbach's brilliant Danish striker Allan Simonsen, European "Footballer of the Year" in 1977, is leaving at the end of the

Action from the UEFA Cup final between Bor. Monchengladbach and MSV Duisberg — won by Borussia.

Berti Vogts, captain of Bor. Monchengladbach, back in action after injury.

EAM BOOST THEIR CUP ASPIRATIONS

Ian Bowyer of Nottingham Forest scores the goal which put his club into the European Cup Final at the expense of 1st FC Koln.

season for Barcelona. The clubs have agreed a fee of £400,000 — reports in the British Press of over £1 million transfer are wildly exaggerated. Simonsen had this transfer fee of 1.2 million D.Marks (£300,000) written into his contract last season, when he told Borussia he will be leaving this year. But Barcelona anxious to secure his release offered Borussia £100,000 extra!

Simonsen collected about £100,000 signing-on bonus and will earn in Barcelona £80,000 a year — before bonuses. This is the salary he was getting in Gladbach, but the Spanish tax laws are much more lenient in the case of resident foreigners.

In his place Borussia engaged centre forward Harald Nickel, who after a successful spell with, among others, Standard Liege in Belgium, returned to join Eintracht Brunswick where he scored 16 goals in the first 29 *Bundesliga* matches. Nickel cost Borussia £250,000 and, at 25, could yet develop into a potential international.

An even more intriguing acquisition made the title contender 1.FC Kaiserslautern. They are hoping to sign the East German international midfielder Lutz Eigendorf 22, who defected after his club Dynamo Berlin played a friendly at Kaiserslautern. The *Bundesliga* club offered Dynamo a "reimbursement" of £25,000, hoping to secure his immediate release, but the East Germans have asked FIFA for a two-year ban. Judging by previous cases Eigendorf, who is training at Kaiserslautern, may have to sit out at least a one-year suspension.

The German referees heaved a sigh of relief when the DFB announced that televised incidents will not be subject to disciplinary actions.

It will be remebered that Felix Magath (Hamburger SV), who hit Wohlers (Borussia Mönchengladbach), was tried solely on filmed evidence — only his opponent who retaliated was sent off. Magath was banned in the first instance for six matches, but the court of appeal overruled the suspension. In future, TV-film will only be used as evidence in "grave circumstances", but what these might be, is still not clear. The referees are at least pleased that they remain sole arbiters of events on the field.

In the Fourth Round of the DFB-Cup the holders 1.FC Köln (Cologne), three days earlier eliminated in the European Cup, also went out in this tournament to Hertha Berlin by 2-0 a.e.t. Hertha, themselves k.o.'d in the UEFA-Cup by Red Star Belgrade, but with a consolation of a 75,000 crowd, should do well in the Cup — next round opponents were Second Division Bayer Uerdingen.

Last year's finalists Fortuna Düsseldorf (1-0 away winners at MSV Duisburg) met Second Division leaders Bayer Leverkusen, while Eintract Frankfurt (3-1 away victors over Borussia Dortmund) were due to receive Rotweiss Oberhausen, who were once in the Bundesliga, but are now vegetating in the amateur ranks!

Incidentally, the quarter-final draw was made by the former national team manager Helmet Schön. He picked out all four remaining *1.Bundesliga* clubs separately and at home against second class opposition! No one shouted "it's a fix", but the big clubs were rubbing their hands in glee at the opportunity to further advancement.

Eintracht Frankfurt had problems of personal nature, when the Swiss international forward Ruedi Elsener expressed the wish to return home, after a disappointing season. World Cup star Bernd Hölzenbein, first suspended for four matches and then badly injured and out for four weeks, intends to finish his career in Saudi-Arabia. There the former Bayern coach Dietmar Cramer is leading a new wave of interest in soccer — in direct competition with Jimmy Hill, of BBC-TV fame. . . .

Gary Birtles of Nottm. Forest.

HODDLE - BIRTLES - SANSOM

Three aiming for the top

GLENN HODDLE: If Tottenham's England under-21 midfielder makes the grade to a regular place in the national team, plenty of the credit can go to Argentine team-mates Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa.

Yet when Spurs paid £700,000 to bring the World Cup pair to White Hart Lane last summer, many of the White Hart Lane faithful expected a transfer request from Hoddle.

With his intricate skill, delicate touch and stunning shooting, Hoddle appeared first in line for the axe to make way for the South Americans, particularly since his established position was on the right in midfield, a place Ardiles would clearly fill.

Yet not only was Hoddle unworried by their arrival he was, and remains, strongly in favour of the import policy established in this past season not only by Tottenham, but also by Ipswich, Sheffield United, Chelsea, Southampton, Birmingham and Bristol City.

"You can learn so much from them," says Hoddle. "Ardiles and Villa came here with a completely different style. Unlike lots of our players they like to hold the ball and try to beat a man before releasing a pass. I found that really encouraging.

"I like to hold the ball myself rather than push it on immediately to someone else, and it's been great to have two players alongside who understand what I'm trying to do."

IT's hardly surprising that Hoddle, freely tipped for a full England cap very soon and with youth and under-21 honours to his credit already, names George Best as the player he idolised.

"I was never a supporter of Manchester United," says Hoddle, "but I always thought Best was the greatest. It's such a shame the way his career worked out. He never even played in a World Cup yet he had so much ability it was almost unfair."

The pressures on a young player — as Best found out to his cost — can be very tough. Hoddle appreciates that more than most with the adulation of the fams, countless requests for newspaper interviews and being a repeated subject for the television men who pick out the brilliant goals and repeat them time after time in goal-of-the-month competitions.

But Hoddle has been able to cope, despite the added handicap of playing for a club who will always be news whatever their result, whether in success or failure.

Born in Hayes, Middlesex, but at home since the age of four in Harlow, Hoddle's first advantage in coping with the head-twisting temptations laid open by professional football is the fact that he still lives at home with his parents.

"The fuss does take a lot of getting used to," Hoddle admits. "I was lucky living at home. I can imagine that a kid living away from home, in digs, can get tempted into all sorts of trouble."

That was precisely one of Best's major problems when he went through the homesickness hell of his early days in Manchester.

Whereas Best had been discovered by a club across the water from his native Belfast, Hoddle was meant for 'local' Tottenham right from the start.

"It was always Spurs for me," he says. "I started going to watch their games with my dad when I was a kid and when I was 11 I started playing with their 15-year-olds so I got a pass to get in and see the first team play."

A remarkably young introduction that, for a child in big-time football.

"I was spotted playing in Sunday football. Then a few months later Martin Chivers came down to Harlow to present a cup final trophy and he saw me and passed the word on — and that was it."

Hoddle today, about to sign a new contract and settled gracefully alongside Ardiles, looking every inch an England regular of tomorrow, suffered one of his two major setbacks while a Tottenham kid.

At barely 16 Hoddle was struck by the footballer's occupational hazard, cartilage trouble.

"That was frightening," he says. "I would have been heart-broken if I'd had to give up. All I'd ever wanted was to play football and, if possible, for Tottenham. I was afraid I might have been finished before my career had really begun.

"But luckily I've had no more trouble."

The only other setback Hoddle felt keenly was two years ago when Tottenham slipped into the Second Division. But those days are now a faded memory following the immediate return and the boost supplied by the introduction of Ardiles and Villa.

But it's not to them alone that credit must go for Hoddle's consistency after he, along with many of his team-mates, struggled at the start of the 1978-79 season.

There's always manager Keith Burkinshaw there, with his insistent philosophy that skill is not enough if a player is to take his full responsibility to the team.

After Hoddle had starred in a 3-1 win at Coventry in February, Burkinshaw said: "That was his best game of the season — because I've been onto Glenn all week about Kevin Keegan. It's a lot harder to be a Keegan than a Cruyff, because of the work he has to get through in a game.

"Its the same for Glenn. If he's going to make it he has to realise he can't be a luxury

Kenny Sansom (front row, second from right) with his Crystal Palace team.

TOMORROW'S MEN

KEIR RADNEDGE looks at the careers and ambitions of three young stars who could help form the backbone of the England of tomorrow, and guide the challenge towards the 1982 World Cup.

Glenn Hoddle (white shirt) of Spurs.

in the team, he has to work along with the rest."

Hoddle's chances to succeeding must be good. He was marked down for stardom right from his dream debut. Playing against Stoke at 17 he hit the winning goal past Peter Shilton from 25 yards!

Not bad for a start.

GARRY BIRTLES: The first time Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough went to watch Birtles playing centre forward for non-league Long Eaton, he was not impressed.

Clough says: "The best thing about the game was the Bovril at half-time."

But he must have seen something, for Forest went back to watch Birtles again, and offered him a month's trial followed by a full professional contract.

And for just £2,000 – compare that with the £1 million fee for Trevor Francis – they bought the 22-year-old whose goals at Wembley recently won the League Cup in the 3-2 win over Southampton.

Yet at the start of the season the tall quick centre forward now everyone's local favourite to make the grade with England, was thinking of leaving Forest. He was playing only in their third team.

In the first team was the club's top scorer, Peter Withe. In the reserves was a youngster named Steve Elliott whom Clough tried out last summer in the four-club tournament at Vigo in Spain.

Birtles didn't seem to fit in. It had always been his ambition to play in the First Division and Forest were his local team. But there seemed no future, even though Clough had made it obvious he wasn't a huge admirer of top scorer Withe.

Clough often appears to demand more of his centre forwards than any other player. Why? Because Clough was once himself one of the league's most dangerous spearheads and expects the highest standards from the players who wear the No. 9 shirt for Forest.

Withe couldn't live up to those standards. So just before the first round Champions' Cup tie against holders Liverpool (!) Clough sold him to Newcastle for £250,000.

The fans thought he had gone mad, selling their top goal-getter just before such an important game. But Clough was brave enough to gamble. To gamble not only by selling Withe, but in promoting his third team centre forward to the senior side.

That was last September. Since then Birtles has scored 20-odd goals in more than 30 games, proving at Wembley against Southampton that he can live up to the big occasion, even though his experience remains limited.

It was after the League Cup Final, in which he put the ball into the net four times – two 'goals' were disallowed – that Peter Taylor, Clough's assistant and the man who directs Forest's transfer dealings, explained how they signed Birtles.

"We heard a rumour that Manchester United were interested in a Long Eaton player," says Taylor. "It's only a 10-minute walk from my home to their ground and I couldn't allow them to take a player from under my nose.

"In fact the rumour was wrong. United weren't interested in anyone from Long Eaton. But the whisper had been enough for us to go and see what they had to offer and we spotted Birtles."

That was in August 1976. Taylor finally brought Birtles to play a game for the Forest reserves and decided to sign him on the spot. As we'cw seen, he cost £2,000, but £200,000 would be considered a derisory offer for him now.

Why? Taylor says: "He can go right to the top. His character and personality are just right. His ball control is superb and he's quick and good in the air. He also has a long way to go yet before he reaches his best."

West Bromwich, Manchester City and Aston Villa were among other clubs who had spied on Birtles at one time or another. He had even been for a trial with Villa, but they turned him down. Birtles never found out why.

Yet his value to Long Eaton is underlined by the way they lost their grip after he left. They were six points clear in their championship on Birtles departure, but without his goals ended up finishing second!

With Long Eaton, Birtles was working full time as a tile layer on the roofs of local houses and football paid him a nominal £5 a week. Now a big week with Forest can bring in not far short of £500.

But Birtles remains unaffected by his fame.

"It's still incredible to me," he says. "Before the start of the season my confidence was so low I thought I should soon be on my way from Forest. Now look at what's happened. I'm enjoying all the success but I know I'm still only learning. . . ."

KENNY SANSOM: Crystal Palace's promotion from Second Division to First couldn't be better for the £500,000-rated England under-21 left back.

For a place in the top flight not only provides this talented attacking defender a chance to press his claim to be England's left back for the next 10 years, it also provides a welcome relief for Palace themselves.

Or at least, that's how Sansom sees it.

"The trouble with the Second Division," he says, "is that we never had a chance to play the football we can. It was all long balls and kicking and everyone who played

●Continued on page 49

by BRIAN MARSHALL

WHAT WENT WRONG AT CITY?

Asa Hartford — unsettled at Manchester City.

A veteran Northern Journalist was talking recently with Peter Swales, Manchester City's chairman. He told Swales: "There is something missing in the Manchester City set-up and I cannot put my finger on it."

The journalist couldn't understand why Manchester City, with all their potential, had never really emerged as a dominating team while their near neighbours, Manchester United, even while going through a transitional period, can still pick up the honours.

It is a sad fact that Manchester City have never been able to emulate their Old Trafford colleagues and here lies the real reason for their surprising fall from grace this season.

Success in soccer is all about winning. Winning builds up confidence and eases the tension which has always been prevalent at Maine Road over the past twelve months.

This tension in turn has brought about a series of decisions which have all contributed to Manchester City struggling at the wrong end of the table. Players have been bought and transferred. Chief coach Bill Taylor quit after the arrival of Malcolm Allison.

These comings and goings have brought a dark cloud over Maine Road and it is obvious that some of these moves have not been conclusive to a happy spirit at the Manchester City camp.

Two seasons ago it appeared as if the Swales-Tony Book partnership was on the verge of a tremendous break-through. They had a blend of experience and youth and there was a vibrant air about the place. Unfortunately, people got a little impatient for success and the result is that the team has come apart at the seams.

Players have been allowed to move when in retrospect they still had a job to do in the Manchester City line-up. It now appears obvious that the likes of Mike Doyle, Joe Royle and Dennis Tueart have been sadly missed. Their experience would have been invaluable in the present crisis which is unlikely to have occurred if certain policy decisions had not been made by the management.

It is always easy to be wise after the event but it is also palpably clear that the decision to prefer Mick Channon to Joe Royle was the wrong move if Manchester City wanted to include Brian Kidd. Events have since proved this to be correct. Royle moved to Bristol City, while Channon was subsequently transfer listed and Kidd released to link up with Everton.

Royle would have been the ideal foil to Kidd and instead of having to forage alone for goals he would have been able to use the giant frame of his colleague to open up the opposition defence. The Kidd-Channon formation was never effective and as a result the front line became lop-sided with the talented Peter Barnes eventually losing form along with Asa Hartford.

It was a sad and unnecessary state of affairs which will have deep and long-standing effects on everyone at Maine Road. As they have discovered it takes a tremendous amount of work to build up a winning side but all these good intentions can be destroyed by one wrong decision.

Looking on from the outside I thought things began to go wrong when they transferred Joe Royal to Bristol City. Obviously manager Tony Book preferred his big money signing Mick Channon. He really had to justify his big outlay and this called upon him to recoup some of the money with the sale of the ex-Everton striker.

This was only the beginning of a series of moves which have brought about Manchester City's demise.

Close on the heels of Royle's departure was the move of Tueart to America. This was a waste of some really fine talent and it was a move which should have been blocked but it is typical of the unnecessary haste which has been prevalent at Maine Road for the past two years.

The decision to part with Doyle was another move which has only accelerated the troubles at Maine Road. He is a player obviously near the end of his highly successful playing career but the one feature which has been obviously lacking in the Manchester City side over the past few months is a general such as Doyle to hold the forces together.

Doyle has now gone on to Stoke City and played a big part in their success and now is very disappointed with the fortunes of his old club. He, along with many people, thought Manchester City were the team of the future but all these hopes are seemingly lying in ruins as they attempt to rebuild yet again.

The return of Malcolm Allison, even now, must have a big question mark against the validity of the move. That saying of you cannot teach an old dog new tricks certainly applies in this case.

His previous relationship with Manchester City along with the guiding hands of Joe Mercer had been successful. Allison was new, vigorous and positive. Now he appears to have mellowed, become a little more compassionate and a little reticent.

Some of his moves aimed at uplifting Manchester City have not worked and the club has been in a turmoil with Barnes, Hartford, Channon and Kidd all figuring in the transfer news. Yet another player, Ron Futcher, drifted away to America for a six figure fee badly disillusioned at what had gone on at Maine Road.

Only a few months previously he had arrived at Maine Road full of hope for the future. But he too was obviously upset by the happenings in the club and this effected his general play and his form which suffered dramatically as City attempted to stay out of the relegation zone.

Peter Swales, the largest shareholder in Manchester City, has viewed the situation with great concern. He himself offered to resign but the other directors persuaded him to change his mind.

Now he must formulate plans for the future and I've a feeling that the general upheaval at Maine Road is far from finished. But this has been the story of Manchester City over the years as they have been striving to emulate the success of their old rivals, Manchester United.

It is a situation which only a tremendous amount of work can resolve and it will not be achieved over-night

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

THE Safety of Grounds Act has been passed and football clubs, notionally at least, have been rigorously obliged to cut their houses, or their stadia, in order to decrease the capacity of their grounds, and to see to it that fans can watch in comfort and without danger. To all of which the proper response seems to be, on current evidence, a loud, horse laugh. Let me quote the views and experiences of one young fan, a 19-year-old Oxford undergraduate, quite large enough to look after himself.

At the Tottenham versus Manchester United Cup tie, he says, he was among the Manchester United supporters standing at the Park Lane End. "People were pushing from the back, you get crushed against the people at the front, and everybody gets crushed on top of each other. You had to push back the people coming down on top of you; it means exerting an enormous amount of strength, particularly from the legs, and part of the reason for this is that at Tottenham you can get pushed off the top at the back quite easily.

"You're pushed into the passage at the back which is below the level of the terraces and you can't see a thing. This once happened to a friend of mine at a Spurs-United match who missed the whole of the first half. At some stages you get people pushing down behind you and people in front pushing back up, so you get very badly crushed between the two. At the Cup tie, this big middle-aged Scotsman was shouting at the police, who were standing at the back, cursing them, telling them to come down and do something about the situation.

"They just stood there without a clue, really. In the second half it tends to get better, because a lot of people move to another part of the crowd; though in this case the second half wasn't much better than the first. You feel as if you've been playing 90 minutes yourself at the end of it!

"At Maine Road, in the semi-final, it was very dangerous really, very dangerous. The only terrace at Man. City — for which you have to pay two quid — is on the halfway line and the view is universally dreadful. I totally missed two of the four goals and I had to fight like fury to see the penalty — by jumping up continuously. There didn't seem to be enough crush barriers at the side and at the back, so there was nothing to stop people pouring forward and falling on top of each other; a lot of people actually fell over and could easily have been injured. In this case the police could have done something by moving in and forming a sort of human crush barrier.

"People were shouting at them as the Scotsman had at Tottenham, and they just stood at the back looking annoyed that anyone should suggest this to them. At the end of the game, a girl nearly had her back broken. What happened was there was only one exit at the side and everybody was fighting from above and below to leave by it, and because everybody was rushing towards it, there was a terrific crush. The combined weight of hundreds of people crushed the girl against the barrier so that the only thing that would give way would be her backbone. There were people the other side of the barrier pushing her up. Eventually she managed to dive under the barrier and roll away. Then I got crushed against the same barrier. I've been crushed before, but I've never had the same feeling as I did in this case, because the pressure on me was such that I just couldn't move at all; people pushed me away from the barrier, as well; which was agony.

"Eventually I got away, but if it had continued, I would have ruptured my spleen, without any question. As far as I'm concerned, Maine Road is the worst ground I've ever been on, and I've been on a lot. Not only can't you see a thing; a third of the pitch is always cut off; but the conditions are utterly primitive and the separation of the fans is such that whenever United play City numerous people are injured by missiles thrown from both sets of fans."

And now to another part of the Forest; Nottingham, the club which complains with such self-righteous figure about the support it gets from the city. Yet the ineptitude of the arrangements before the recent home semi-final of the European Cup against Cologne severely dilutes one's sympathy for Forest.

True, it was a special occasion in more senses than one; the deplorable go-slow unofficially imposed by postal workers meant that Forest understandably decided not to send out tickets to applicants but to have them picked up before the game. Alas, they were not intelligent enough to open more than the one, usual window.

When, after being caught for nearly an hour in an M1 traffic jam, my colleagues and I arrived at the City Ground, it was to find, five minutes before kick-off, a queue of over 200 waiting for their tickets at that solitary window. It was a shocking thing for the fans to endure; shocking, too, for the Press. You would have thought separate arrangements might have been made, perhaps a turnstile used, but not a bit of it. "My instructions are that everybody goes to the back of the queue," said the helpful man on the main door.

And then, to add insult to injury, Forest's programme blithely announced that building works on the new stand would mean that a group of season tickets holders would simply lose their seats for the last three home matches

"Regrettably," wrote Mr. Ken Smales, the Forest secretary, who has been known in these columns to castigate the Press at large with a fine indiscrimination, "our East Stand season ticket holders will find themselves without a seat to sit on for the run-in to the end of the season and we have no alternative seats to offer them. We will be informing them of our proposed arrangements in due course."

Here, Forest may have been a little unlucky, but the inadequacy of their arrangements for the Cologne game can scarcely be excused. Football clubs even in these changed, diminished times, when they can no longer rely on the bemused readiness of fans to crowd on to the terraces in every kind of discomfort and bad weather, remain deplorably indifferent, not to say cavalier.

Across the border, of course, it can be worse. Less than a decade ago we had the disaster of Ibrox when, at a Celtic-Rangers match, so many deaths occurred in a vicious little bottleneck of the stadium; well enough known for something to have been done about it long before. FOUL, the satirical magazine which should have done so much and in fact did so spitefully little, had its finest hour when Alan Stewart published in it a splendid analysis of that pitiful, sordid affair, which put to shame the Press in general and the complaisant Glaswegian Press in particular.

So there we are. Clubs, by and large, still shunt their fans around like cattle, still treat them with the most callous indifference, still live mentally in the age of the Victorian ironmaster. My son tells me, for good — or bad — measure — that even the buying of a programme on what might laughingly be called Manchester City's "popular" side is a humiliating exercise in the survival of the fittest. Programme sellers stand around the edges of the paddock while people simply throng and brawl to reach them.

Perhaps there is something positive to be said for the falling away of attendances; at least a lack of spectators guarantees those who are there against the grisly scenes which took place at Maine Road. Roll on the day when everybody is, at last, seated; as they are in the States. Behind the American drive to ensure the creature comforts of the fans lies the familiar desire for dollars but at least its product is a benign one. You would sometimes be tempted to think that our own soccer clubs view money with the detached unconcern of monks.

USSR
by Terry Bushell

National team warm-up with two good wins

TWO wins in two home friendlies got the Soviet national team off to a good start in its run-up to the decisive games of Group 6 of the European Championship.

First Bulgaria were beaten 3-1 in Simferopol and then Sweden went down 2-0 at Tbilisi. The Bulgarians were 2-0 down within seven minutes. Blokhin scored direct from a free-kick, the ball grazing, and being deflected by, one of the defenders in the Bulgarian wall, and then Shengelia, last season's Player of the Year, got the second. Gavrilov scored the third in the second half with Panov having pulled one back for the visitors.

Pouring rain throughout spoiled the match and made it impossible to judge either team. Considerable changes have been made in the Soviet national team following the retirement or going over the hill of many of the star Dynamo Kiev side.

Partly because of the slippery conditions play was rather rough at times and Polish referee Alexander Sukanec had to warn Vasiliev and Denev of Bulgaria and Soviet defender Prigoda.

Midfield

It was the 13th match between the national sides of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, with the latter winning seven, drawing five and losing one.

Against Sweden in Tbilisi, both Soviet goals came in the second half, after three replacements had been made at half-time. One of the replacements, Shengelia, playing in his home stadium, opened the scoring in the 48th minute and seven minutes later midfield player Khidiyatullin notched the second.

In the first half the Swedes seemed to have the advantage, launching well co-ordinated attacks and neutralising the swift Soviet forwards. But they failed to capitalise on their supremacy and after the tempo had quickened the hosts got on top.

USSR v. Bulgaria

USSR: Gontar, Prigoda, Adzhem, Bubnov, Makhovikov, Daraselia, Bessonov (Gavrilov), Koridze, Gutsaev, Shengelia, Blokhin.

Bulgaria: Staikov, Vasilev, Kolev, Stoikov (Ivanov), Bonev, Denev, Panov, Rainov, Zdravkov, Dzhevidov, Tsvetkov.

USSR v. Sweden

USSR: Degtyaryov (Gontar), Prigoda, Adzhem, Makhovikov, Bubnov, Daraselia, Khidiyatullin (Koridze), Bessonov (Gavrilov), Gutsaev, Gazzayev (Shengelia), Blokhin.

Sweden: Moeller, Fredriksson, Arvidsson, Dahliqvist, Erlandsson, Nordin, Nielsson, Nordgren, Magnusson, Oslund, Grenhagen.

The first game of the new Soviet league season to be held in Moscow, which until then had been to cold and icy for football, resulted in a win for Moscow Torpedo over visitors Zarya from Voroshilovgrad.

The hosts won 1-0, the goal coming in the second half when Zarya defender Zhuravlev put the ball in his own net.

Twelve thousand spectators were there to welcome football back into their lives after a long, hard and very cold winter.

Some of the Moscow clubs have been penalised by the exceptionally long winter, having to play the first of their scheduled home matches in the warmer south.

The first Moscow match was supposed to be on April 10, with the Central Army Sports Club receiving Lokomotiv, but conditions were still too bad and the match had to be played in Simferopol.

In the following few days, up to the 22nd, when Torpedo received Zarya, several other Moscow fixtures were transferred to the south. And Torpedo badly needed that win. It was their first this season.

The Leningrad club Zenit were more hardy, or their groundsmen more efficient, for on April 15 they met the reigning champions Dynamo Tbilisi at home in a sub-zero temperature — and promptly wished they hadn't, losing 1-0 to a second-half goal from Gutsaev.

One would have thought the fans and the visitors from the sub-tropical republic of Georgia would have been put off by the freezing weather — but 18,000 turned up to watch while, as the newspaper *Sovietsky Sport* quaintly put it, the guests were "not embarrassed" by the snow and ice.

Still in the Deep South, in Baku, the Central Army Sports Club beat the local Neftchi side 3-0, all three goals coming in the second half and all three scored by Yuri Chesnokov, who with this hat-trick topped the list of scorers in the Supreme League.

He had earlier scored another hat-trick, in the preceding game against Kairat in Alma-Ata.

A jolt

Unfashionable Pakhtakor of Tashkent were the surprise early leaders in the Supreme League, winning their first three games and drawing the fourth. Their supporters reacted immediately to their success, 50,000 of them packing into the Pakhtakor Stadium, the biggest in Soviet Central Asia, to see them beat The Wings of the Soviets 3-2.

Pakhtakor later received a jolt, however, being thrashed 4-0 at Dynamo Tbilisi. Minashvili and Gutsaev both scored twice, Gutsaev's two coming from the penalty spot.

Tbilisi were among the other teams at the top, along with Donetsk Shakhtyor and Moscow Dynamo. The performance of the Moscow club was the most impressive for, apart from all their early games being away from home, they in fact won all their first nine games of the season.

With Cup ties preceding the start of the League, they won all six of these, scoring 18 goals and conceding — none. It is therefore not surprising that the Moscow Dynamo goalkeeper Nikolai Gontar and full-backs Alexander Bubnov and Alexander Makhovikov have been chosen for the national team.

They were later brought down to earth at Dynamo Kiev though, losing 2-1. On the same day, Shakhtyor went soldiering on, beating The Wings of the Soviets 3-0 in Kuibishev, all the goals coming in the second half, two of them from midfield player Mikhail Sokolovsky.

on the ball

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Engin for Hertha Berlin

WEST GERMAN club Hertha Berlin have agreed to pay 200,000 DM for Engin of Fenerbahce in Turkey.

Egin recently had a trial in Germany but it wasn't only his football that attracted attention. The newspaper *Bild* said: "Playboy Engin took interest in girls rather than football."

Engin was once banned from international matches after a night club row over a girl on the eve of a critical match.

BENFICA ARE BACK IN RACE

by Arthur Rotmil

AS the Portuguese League championship is nearing its end, only two clubs are still in contention for the title: The holders Porto and the country's record champions Benfica (23 titles).

The "Eagles of Lisbon" made a bad start, but they climbed steadily to reach the top of the table and are poised to clinch their 13th championship in 17 years — a remarkable achievement, if they don't slip up at the finish. Most neutral fans would rather see Porto win, since they are managed by a Portuguese, José Maria Pedroto. Benfica's boss is the likeable Englishman John Mortimore, who has followed Jimmy Hagan, Ronnie Allen and Tommy Docherty, who all coached with varying degrees of success in that country.

Benfica enjoyed a marvellous run remaining unbeaten between September 24 and March 4, when they lost to lowly Maritimo in Funchal, on the Atlantic island of Madeira. The League leaders never liked playing there, but they had their problems too. Both goalkeepers Bento and Fidalgo were injured. Bento sustained a head injury in the match against Famalicao which required 36 stitches. Fidalgo was badly hurt in a match in Austria, so that Benfica had to call up their veteran José Henrique.

Absence

Manager Mortimore was also indisposed. He had to travel to London to undergo an eye operation. On his return he was still unable to take up his duties full time; in his absence Peres Bandeira, the coach of the club's juniors took charge of the first team squad.

Benfica's defence has tightened up considerably since the acquisition of Alhinho, who returned after a spell in Belgian Football. The international centre back, who combines splendidly with the more famous Humberto Coelho, has a rare claim to fame: He is the oldest of sixteen brothers and they all play football!

The next Alhinho ready to hit the big time could be Joao, who has already played in the 'Under-21 Team' against Scotland, in a curtain raiser to the full international. Alhinho the eldest, made his name with Sporting Lisbon, but having joined their deadly rivals Benfica he has alienated the Sporting fans who cannot forgive him for switching camps.

Benfica have just celebrated 75 years of existence. The Club boasts five football pitches, 18 tennis courts, three indoor arenas, seven smaller covered sports halls, with swimming pool and artificial track. About 10,000 athletes use these facilities. Twelve doctors and 20 masseurs are employed there and the club also run a clinic with a small operating theatre for emergencies. The club has 60,000 subscription paying members. The Lisbon city council in recognition of Benfica's contribution to the country's and city's fame, have given the club the land on which their stadium, the 'Estadio da Luz' is situated, as a gift.

The club celebrated its anniversary of foundation in the Casino of the mundane seaside resort of Estoril. 700 distinguished club members were invited to the gala evening. Every Portuguese club paid its respects with gifts and momentoes for the country's most famous and successful sports club.

Casting envious eyes at their local foes are Sporting Club de Portugal, recently starved of success. Sporting won the Cup last year, but it is five years since they were League champions. In the all-time table this club is also overshadowed by Benfica; they won 14 championships to Benfica's 23 and the Cup nine times, to their rivals fifteen.

Founded in 1906, Sporting boast 50,000 members whose monthly subscription entitles them to see free almost all League and Cup matches at the José Alvalade stadium (capacity 35,000 seated and 8,000 standing). Sporting are known as the "Lions" and they cater for a variety of sports, from basketball to table tennis. Since the introduction of professionalism, Sporting have imported numerous foreign-born footballers, mainly Brazilians, who of course speak Portuguese and many more from the former African colonies, like Angola and Mozambique.

Trouble

But they are in trouble now, following the loss of four key players lured away to America. The internationals Manuel Fernandes, Artur and Jordao, as well as the African striker Salif Keita (from Mali), are going to Boston where the former Portuguese star Eusebio is manager of a club affiliated to the "American Soccer League", operating in competition with the "NASL".

Several managerial changes have taken place recently: The Argentinian Osvaldo Silva replaced the Portuguese Mario Morais at FC Vizeu; Vitoria Setubal changed team managers three times — after Fernando Vaz came Carlos Cardoso and now Rui Silva; FC Maritimo changed twice: from Pedro Gomes, via Fernando Vaz to Manuel Oliveira.

The former famous Benfica international forward José Augusto went to Barreirense, where he took over from Oliveira. And Jimmy Hagan (who once coached Benfica), has been engaged to Boavista, who dismissed José Carlos. This season already five clubs have changed their team coaches.

The biggest problem in Portuguese football is the enormous difference in playing standards between the top and bottom clubs. This is another reason why the Lisbon clubs and Porto attract healthy gates, but numerous other fixtures are staged before abysmally low crowds. The president of the Football Federation, Dr. Antonio Marques warns, that the First Division will have to be reduced from the present 16 teams, if support does not improve. Nearly all clubs exist mainly thanks to subscription-paying members, who can use the sports facilities at the ground.

Beveren-Waas win title

BEVEREN-WAAS achieved a goalless draw against Beringen and with it the title after Anderlecht lost 2-1 at home to Winterslag. With two matches still to play they have a lead of seven points.

Anderlecht's inconsistency has to be spelled out to be believed. Of their 32 matches to date they won 19 but lost ten and achieved only three draws, easily the lowest division of the spoils in the division.

Despite scoring 69 goals, nine more than Beveren at present, Anderlecht continued a hit or miss range of results.

The old champions FC Bruges began badly, had a purple patch in the middle of the season and then faltered again to fall out of a chance of returning to Europe in the UEFA Cup.

With only two points separating Anderlecht, Lokeren, Standard Liege and RWD Molenbeek, the battle for places in Europe is likely to be an interesting one in the closing weeks.

Turkey ban

WITH Fenerbahce losing 2-1 away to Orduspor, Trabzonspor's 3-0 win over Diyarbakirspor has put them two points clear at the top of the Turkish League table with three matches to play.

Trabzonspor who have led virtually all season and have a vastly superior goal difference are now firm favourites to regain the title they lost to Fenerbahce last season after twice winning the championship in 1976 and 1977.

Galatasaray who finished third last season seem likely to be in the same berth at the end of the present term.

Moves to ban foreign trainers from Turkey next season are not likely to meet much opposition, but at the same time seem unlikely to either improve the standard of play or the goalscoring in the League.

1986—World Cup

Hanns J Maier reports

WILL THE 1986 World Cup really take place in Colombia?

There has been much discussion — both in and out of Colombia regarding this issue.

Certainly FIFA's decision to allow an expansion of the World Cup Finals from 16 to 24 teams may jeopardise the country's hopes. Alfonso Senior, president of the Colombian football association and a FIFA representative, says his country lacks the resources to host a 24-team World Cup.

FIFA president Joao Havelange still insists that Colombia is under no obligation to follow the format used in Spain, but it appears unlikely FIFA would revert from 24 teams to 16 again.

To many Colombians the loss of the World Cup would come as a blessing.

"Our country has enough problems without spending millions of dollars on a month-long tournament," said Juan Saffon, a college student. "The money should be saved, or used in much wiser ways. The government would spend millions of dollars preparing for the World Cup. Just look at how much it cost Argentina."

Dollars

Argentina spent over 700 million dollars preparing for 1978. To accommodate the media and tourists, five Press centres and three stadia were built, three other stadiums had to be remodelled, and the transport and communication system were vastly improved.

"Events like the World Cup and the Olympics always cost the hosting nation a bundle," said Miguel Korol, an Argentine reporter. "A country has to weigh the consequences when deciding whether to stage a world-wide spectacle such as this. The people and the government have to ask questions like: 'How much will it cost? Will it be worth it?' etc."

Many Colombians obviously feel the World Cup would not be worth the time or money.

"We have better things to do than to prepare our nation for a sport tournament," said Uriel Velasquez, a businessman from Bogota, the nation's capital.

"How could we ever justify spending so many millions of dollars on stadiums and Press centres when we have thousands of starving people without any homes?"

Vagrants

The streets of Bogota, Medillin, Cali and other cities are cluttered with hundreds of homeless children called "gaminis". Crippled, blind and grotesquely deformed vagrants pathetically comb the streets begging for pennies, cigarettes and scraps of food.

Another problem is Colombia's high crime rate. Increasing theft has turned Colombia into one of, if not the most dangerous country in South America.

"It can be risky to walk our streets," said one Bogota policeman. "If you carry a watch, purse or jewellery, you have to be careful. If you don't watch out, they will be stripped right off you.

Diego Edison Umana.

"Think of the impression that would leave on visiting journalists, or even a tourist. I think we are asking for trouble if we have the World Cup."

But not everybody opposes the idea of hosting the World Cup.

"It would be the best thing that ever happened to this country," said Mario Duenas, a photo-journalist for *AS dePortes*, the country's most popular sport magazine.

"It would cost a lot, but it would be worth it. Look at Argentina now; they are respected and admired all over the world just because of the impression they made on foreigners during the World Cup. I'm sure that in seven years time we too would be ready to host a tournament of such calibre."

The strongest force behind the World Cup supporters is Alfonso Senior. As president of the country's soccer association, Senior strongly advocates hosting the tournament.

When I was in Colombia, I asked Senior: *From a visitor's standpoint, what would be the advantages of having the World Cup in Colombia in 1986?*

SENIOR: First, we're right in the heart of America.

"We're in close reach of all countries in South, Central and North America. Colombia is also easily accessible from Europe or any other part of the world.

"The cost of living is very low here, so visitors could spend a full month very inexpensively. We also have an over-abundance of hotels, ranging from very cheap to very expensive. Also our country, in terms of natural beauty, is one of the finest in the world."

But some of your countrymen do not want Colombia to host the 1986 World Cup. How do you feel about this?

SENIOR: You can never expect everybody to agree on an issue. Obviously there are some people who do not want us staging the tournament. I am certain, however, that there are many more Colombians who welcome the idea of a Colombian *Mundial*.

"Unfortunately, the only time people speak out publicly against something, is when they strongly oppose the issue. So far, most of the people who want the World Cup have remained silent, but that's beginning to change."

Event

How much would Colombia have to spend to prepare for the event?

SENIOR: "I'm glad you asked, because this is an important point not many Colombians understand.

"The total cost in actual preparation would be 25 million dollars."

Isn't that extremely conservative compared with the $700 million Argentina spent? And what do you mean by "actual preparation?"

SENIOR: Argentina had exceptionally high costs because so much needed to be done. Stadiums and Press centres had to be constructed. A whole communication system had to be built up. They spent over $100 million just on the communication system.

Satellites

"By actual preparation I mean those things that would have to be built specifically for the World Cup. We wouldn't have near the cost Argentina had because we already possess most of the things they needed to build.

"Right now our communication system is better than their current one. This year we're getting colour TV, plus more satellites. We are modernising very rapidly.

"That's the difference between Argentina and us. We won't have to spend hundreds of millions of dollars because so many of the necessary developments have taken place through natural growth."

How would the $25 million be spent?

SENIOR: "To remodel our stadia and set up Press facilities. This is the only area where the government would have to spend money in actual preparation."

Shouldn't the money – regardless of how much will be spent on the World Cup – be used in better ways, such as cutting crime or helping the poor?

without a home? from Colombia

SENIOR: "I understand what people are saying, but I think our government is taking care of these problems and we can still afford to put on the World Cup. Last year a new government took charge with stricter laws to curb the violence and theft in our country.

"The problem of security is slowly and effectively being worked out. We shouldn't have any such problems by the time of the 1986 World Cup. Argentina was in a much worse shape seven years before the World Cup than we are now. Yet in '78 they had abolished their problems and staged an unforgettable World Cup.

Poverty

"Poverty is something we will always have, as will every South American country, and really every country in the world. But our new government is also working on that and the situation should improve rapidly over the next few years."

Has Turbay Ayala (Colombia's President) expressed his feelings about the World Cup?

SENIOR: "He hasn't said anything yet, but I know the leaders of our two government houses are in favour of the tournament. If they say we're going to stage the World Cup, then President Ayala will go along with them."

In what cities would the games take place?

SENIOR: Bogota, Medellin, Cali, Pereira, Bucaramanga and possibly Barranquilla."

Is Colombia doing anything special to prepare the national team for this or the 1982 World Cup?

SENIOR: "As in most South American countries, Futbol is our No. 1 sport. In the last two years we've developed soccer schools for kids between eight and 14. This is to develop better professionals and give our national team greater depth. By 1986 these youngsters will be in their early 20s and should be just right for the World Cup.

Cali, runners-up in the Colombian league.

What of soccer in Colombia now?

SENIOR: "As you know, Cali last year made it all the way to the finals of the Libertadores Cup before they lost to Boca Juniors. But to get to the finals we beat teams from Peru, Paraguay and Uruguay. I'm sure that has given our country more credibility on the soccer field.

"I think we have some great teams and excellent players, and that by 1986 we will have the best national team we've ever had."

Do you think then that Colombia will host the World Cup in 1986?

SENIOR: "Yes, we will. Our people want the Cup. As with Argentina, we want to prove to the world that we can host such a prestigious event. And we can do it successfully, but without spending a ridiculous amount of money."

What happens if FIFA want a 24-team World Cup?

SENIOR: "When FIFA sent their delegation here to inspect our country, they told us would we be hosting a 16-team event. I do not think we can stage a larger World Cup. But FIFA told us that we would not be obliged to follow the format used in Spain.

You think it's possible to have 24 teams in Spain and then revert to 16 in Colombia?

SENIOR: "That's what FIFA told us. But remember, a lot can happen in seven years. We may well be able to host 24 teams. Now, it doesn't look that way. But in the early 1970s no one thought Argentina would ever be able to host the World Cup. And look at the job they did. Seven years is a long time."

Calli versus America of Cali in Colombia.

WORLD SOCCER DIARY . . . WORLD SOCCER DIARY

NAMES IN THE NEWS . . . LUIS SANTIBANEZ is Chile's new national boss . . . NINO ARRUA of Zaragoza is the latest target for Deportivo Cali of Colombia . . . LEONARDO CUELLAR and HUGO SANCHEZ are quitting Mexico for San Diego . . . Brazil World Cup star ROBERTO RIVELINO has admitted while home on holiday that he wants to get away from Saudi Arabia . . . GERD MÜLLER was substituted on his debut for Fort Lauderdale . . . WIM VAN HANEGEM, Holland's 1974 World Cup schemer, has joined Chicago Sting . . . Austria midfielder GUSTI STAREK, whose temper cost him nearly 40 games because of suspensions, is to retire . . . FRANTISEK FADRHONC, ex-Holland manager, is taking over AEK Athens . . . PER RONTVED, Denmark's sweeper, is leaving Werder Bremen for second division Randers Freja back home . . . Holland's 1974 World Cup right back WIM SUURBIER is leaving Metz for Los Angeles Aztecs . . . Ajax winger TSCHEU LA LING is on the point of joining the Dutch colony at Anderlecht . . . WILLI HOFFMANN has succeeded Wilhelm Neudecker as president of troubled Bayern Munich . . . UDO LATTEK will lead Borussia Dortmund next season, while JUPP HEYNCKES steps up at Moenchengladbach . . . JOSE ALTAFINI has made another comeback, with Chiasso in Switzerland . . . Brazil right back NELINHO will be out of football for another four months after a back operation . . . OTTO GLORIA, Portugal's 1966 World Cup manager, is staying in Mexico after quitting Monterrey — he's taken over Nuevo Leon — ATTILA LADINSZKY, much-travelled Hungarian, is now playing back in Belgium with Kortrijk.

Johan Neeskens in action for Barcelona.

Lubanski decides to say no

WHATEVER happened to the old notion of the honour of playing for one's country?

The question is sparked by the latest put-down from an experienced international to his national boss.

On this occasion it was Wlodek Lubanski, 32-year-old forward with Belgium's Lokeren, who politely told Poland manager Ryszard Kulesza that he didn't want to make a return in the European championship.

Lubanski, scorer of around 50 goals in 80 internationals and whose fading glory was seen but fleetingly in the World Cup Finals last year, had been asked back by Kulesza to help guide his reshaped team in the absence of Kaziu Deyna.

The player wasn't interested. Despite the fact that Kulesza's men had just lost 2-1 in East Germany and faced Holland next time out, Lubanski insisted he had done his bit for Poland and it was time the younger players took over.

But what sort of attitude is that? Isn't it the veteran players who give the great teams their patience, wisdom and serenity? Where, for example, would Brazil have been in their great era without the experience of Djalma and Nilton Santos, Bellini and then Mauro in the centre of defence?

You could make up an excellent team from all those players in the past few years who have decided that they have done enough for their countries. Johan Cruyff, Franz Beckenbauer, Wolfgang Overath, Gerd Müller, Jürgen Grabowski, Pirri . . . and now it looks as if Johan Neeskens could also be lost to European international football if he signs with New York Cosmos.

Neeskens has particular reasons (see News from Spain) for deciding to put money before further achievement, but his move is just more evidence of the new era — that it is the players who decide the national manager's team, not vice versa.

FWA AWARD FOR DALGLISH

HAVING recorded Bill Shankly's presence at the Football Writers' night out, it's about time we recorded the purpose of the evening – to present the journalist's annual Footballer of the Year award to Liverpool's outstanding Scotland striker, Kenny Dalglish.

He cost £440,000 from Celtic two years ago when he replaced Kevin Keegan in the Anfield colours (and hearts) and has fully justified his fee.

How? According to Shankly, because he has continued to do the simple things well.

"The problem with transfer fees is that often you get a £300,000 players who thinks when he gets the ball he has to beat seven men on his own to justify the fee," said Shankly. "Kenny knows he doesn't need to do that, and that's why he goes on scoring so many goals.

"But it's not just scoring goals that makes him such a great player. Anyone can see the good things he does on the ball. It's the work he does when he hasn't got the ball that counts as much."

Dalglish was a runaway winner, polling more votes than the other contenders put together. How remarkable then that he wasn't in the top six players named by the professional footballers themselves in their own poll!

Who's out of step?

THE English Football Writers' Association asked along Bill Shankly as one of the speakers at their awards night in London. True to form, the ex-Liverpool boss had a few pertinent comments to pass about the state of the game.

Talking of management, he warned his listeners about the way many try to make a simple game complicated. And he added: "They talk about motivation. Motivation? Players on £500 a week and they have to be motivated! What are we coming to?"

★ ★ ★

REMARKABLE situation in Argentina. Even though the impetus provided by the World Cup success doesn't appear to have provoked much movement towards a federal league system, just consider the situation of Talleres of Cordoba.

An outstanding club, runners-up in the national championship 18 months ago to Independiente, Talleres don't feature in the big metropolitan championship which dominates so much of the thinking of the big clubs such as Boca Juniors, River Plate and Racing.

Yet despite having to fill in much of the year in their own Cordoba-based tournaments, despite having to earn much of their income from friendlies, despite an eight or nine month isolation from the mainstream of Argentine soccer, they provided no fewer than five players in the 23-strong squad named initially by Cesar Menotti to tour Europe.

Defender Victor Ocana, midfield trio of Miguel Oviedo, Jose Daniel Valencia and Juan Cabrera and spearhead Jose Reinaldi are the Famous Five. And that's not to mention World Cup stopper Luis Galvan or new signing Alberto Tarantini!

Perhaps it's no wonder the River Plates of this world don't want to play ball with Talleres too often!

★ ★ ★

MORE from Bill Shankly, homing in on the 47-years retiring age for referees. "How can you stop them that early? You get a man like Jack Taylor who only really starts to look like a referee at 45 and then two years later he's got to retire. It's nonsense."

THERE are two schools of thought about the Olympic soccer tournament — one that the blatant absence of amateurism ought to lead to the scrapping of the thing, the second that a blind eye should be turned to the shamateurism.

FIFA aren't as pragmatic, as they showed in their efforts to find a compromise involving the banning of World Cup players from the European and South American nations.

But that still does not prevent the Eastern Europeans putting out their state amateurs, or several western European countries fielding senior young professionals. Italy, for example, have been lining up their under-21s and two of the goals in their 4-0 win over Greece came from Bruno Giordano who just happens to be the top scorer in *Calcio* this season!

Spain too have named a professional squad with some of their best youngsters. One of their goals recently fell to Juan Jose Rubio, who has been a regular member of Atletico Madrid's first division side all season.

But if there remain blatant examples of rule-bending, surely the funniest situation is that of Mexico. Instead of being pleased that they were excluded from the No-World-Cup-men ban, they have been considering pulling out of the Olympics in protest at being rated on a par only with the developing soccer nations of Africa and Asia!

★ ★ ★

ANOTHER Shankly story — told this time by Jimmy Tarbuck about a five-a-side game at Anfield as curtain-raiser for a testimonial. Shankly's team were awarded a penalty, which Shankly chose to take himself. In goal facing him was the brilliant German who served Manchester City for so long, Bert Trautmann.

To the cheers of the Kop Shankly took the kick and Trautmann dived across to his left to pluck the ball out of the air at shoulder height. As the veterans left the field Shankly said: "Eh Bert, but I had ye goin' the wrong way!"

★ ★ ★

THE extent of the state amateur system and what it means in cash terms behind the Iron Curtain is rarely spelled out as clearly as it was last month.

Lifting the lid on the system was Lutz Eigendorf, the talented midfielder who had so much to do with Dynamo East Berlin's record run through the East German championship.

Eigendorf, 22, slipped away from his team to seek political asylum in West Germany after a 4-1 defeat by Kaiserslautern in a friendly. And since his arrival Eigendorf has laid bare the cash meted out 'over there'.

Eigendorf earned around £500 a month — "a lot of money for a 22-year-old," he said, "when the average for an East German worker is about £175 a month."

On top of that basic pay, Eigendorf also received a £50 win bonus with his club and £25 for a draw.

We told you

Five years ago, that . . . Swedish boss Georg Ericsson was toying prophetically with playing Bo Larsson as sweeper in the 1974 World Cup Finals; a linesman had been badly hurt in Argentina after being hailed with missiles during a Newells-Colon league match; Australia had beaten Uruguay 2-0 in Sydney on their way to the World Cup.

Ten years ago, that . . . Renato Cesarini, ex Juventus and River Plate, had died at 62 in Buenos Aires; Francisco Gento topped 800 games for Real Madrid; West German champions Nurnberg, threatened with relegation, had sacked coach Max Merkel; Brazil's 3-2 win over Peru was held up for 20 minutes following a free-for-all and the explusions of Gerson and Pedro Gonzales.

15 years ago, that . . . Feyenoord had sacked Norberto Noffling, the players' favourite coach; a 19-year-old named Jan Geleta had forced Dukla Prague to move the great Josef Masopust to centre forward; Brazil had appointed Vicente Feola to take charge of their 1966 World Cup campaign; Racing Club de Paris beat Reims 2-1 as both great clubs battled to avoid relegation; Zoltan Czibor, outside left in the great Hungary of the early 1950s, had quit Grasshoppers Zurich to try his luck in Canada.

Another four years with Menotti

from ERIC WEIL

THE months of negotiations before Argentine national team coach Cesar Menotti finally signed a new four-year contract with the Argentine FA — in Buenos Aires, Montevideo (during the South American junior championship) and Mar del Plata (where the coach spent his holiday) almost toppled one FA president before his time and certainly "made" his successor.

Alfredo Cantilo, FA president at the time, whose organising and strong will contributed to the winning of the World Cup last year, flatly refused to increase the Argentine FA's offer to Menotti — which was quite some way below the asking price — because, he simply said, they could not afford it . . . while Menotti, saying all along that he did not really want to leave Argentina, was receiving offers from home and abroad at the rate of about one every 48 hours. Cantilo even offered to stand down from the presidency before his term was up in April rather than give in and eventually a committee was formed under the Independiente club's president, Julio Grondona, to look into ways and means of keeping the coach on the FA pay-roll.

A lot of figures were bandied about before Menotti eventually agreed to sign another contract until December 31, 1982, at an annual fee of 70 million pesos (60,000 dollars), to be increased annually in accordance with the cost of living, plus a six-million pesos monthly salary (5,000 dollars), also to be upped every three months according to the C.O.L., plus double the bonuses given to players per point won or final position in any tournament. (The signing made Grondona the favourite for the FA presidency and he was voted in without opposition recently.)

This was early March and Menotti immediately got to work, what with a national team tour to Europe starting with a match against Holland on May 22 and another in September, South American championship games scheduled for July and August, the Pan American Games in July and the Junior World Cup finals in Japan in August.

At his old office on the fifth floor of the FA building in Buenos Aires — which he had vacated a few weeks earlier when it seemed that no contract agreement would be reached — he talked about his plans.

"The process will be the same as for the last World Cup. I want to reach 1982 with a great team, formed by the best players available in top shape and I don't want to leave a stone unturned to get it. This objective alone will keep me busy seven days a week, 10 to 12 hours a day, talking to club coaches about promising players, watching teams all over the country, supervising training and all the paper-work. Not a day must be lost as too much time has been wasted already," he said.

"Last year's World Cup players will not have preference just because they won the title," Menotti continued. "They will have priority if they show they have maintained the same soccer ability and personality. Newcomers will have to show the same team spirit."

The 23-men tour squad picked by Menotti included only seven players who lined up in last year's World Cup final — four others are playing abroad — and 11 new caps.

"I was criticised for trying out over 80 players last time, but they all knew from the outset that they could have been eliminated without even having taken part in a practice game, because sometimes I can see from a simple conversation whether a player will do or not. I formed provincial and junior selections — something which had never been done here before — but some of the players from these are world champions today. I will do the same thing again and I am not saying that I will leave out any players because they will be too old for the next World Cup. But if I have two players of equal merit and one is 30 and the other 25 for example, I will obviously pick the younger one. This year I expect to watch at least 200 players in action in spite of the extensive international programme," Menotti said.

Menotti wants to compete with European teams as much as possible. "They will be our first rivals in the next World Cup as we have no qualifying games to go through against South American teams and other qualifiers from this continent will not be in the same first round group either."

Menotti says that eventually he would like to have four players picked for every position as security against players being sold abroad. Before the last World Cup he was sometimes suddenly left with positions uncovered because of this. Even so, Menotti is against the Argentine FA imposing an "export" ban at this stage as it conspires against a player's right to earn as much as he can where he can. But such a ban will most likely be imposed nearer 1982.

He hopes to have his next World Cup line-up fairly well established after an international series to be played here in the middle of 1981 and then he wants to go on another European tour . . .

And he would like to use only players with local clubs. Only if he finds at the beginning of 1982 that he can not adequately fill a position for which there is a better player with a foreign club will he ask permission to include him. This, in the case of such players as Kempes and Ardiles (who have played in his teams before), would not disrupt team-work.

What will be the difference this time?

"It will be more difficult," says Menotti. "Last time we started from nothing, but now we are world champions and have the responsibility of defending the title. This changes our whole outlook, but it doesn't frighten me. The players are there and we have already shown what we can do with good organisation. Now we have confidence and conviction and know that it can be done. But again we will need everybody's help, because I am convinced that the World Cup was not won entirely by the players, but also by objective journalists, soccer officials and others who generously helped us.

"But the most important difference now is that the national team has its fans which was not the case before." Menotti continued (Over 2,000 people turned up at the airport to see them arrive for a friendly practice against a local club in Mendoza recently). "We are also playing cleaner soccer than before at club level and more clubs are playing attacking soccer — all of which will help me to get the players to play the kind of soccer I want.

"At the same time, club officials are more conscious of the importance of being world champions and the local league championships are being shortened — all of which should make it easier for me to get the players together for mid-week training without having them worn-out and injury-prone, as was the case before."

Will anything be the same?

"Lots of things will be the same," Menotti says. "Unfortunately also that the national team squad still has not got a permanent training centre and we have to go from club to club — cap in hand — where often the facilities are not up to standard." While training installations used to prepare last year's World Cup team are quite good, they are a good way out of town for daily training sessions when the players are not confined to camp. Menotti frequently points to Holland as an example where he saw a special training complex for the national team.

We reminded Menotti that before the last World Cup he frequently said he did not have

● Continued on page 49

HOLLAND by Jan-Herman de Bruijn

Lack of money hits top clubs

MONEY . . . the most important word in Dutch football. But this time it is the clubs, not the players, who are talking about money. Or the lack of it!

During the last two months many clubs were in financial trouble; the best illustration is from Dordrecht.

FC Dordrecht are 19th in the Dutch 'eerste divisie' (second league); there is no lower position. Their attendances are a little over 1,000 a match, and this is a situation the club has been in for many years.

Two seasons ago the directors, especially their chairman, Mr. Dick Passchier (a well known Dutch television-star) had enough of that situation, and wanted to buy some good players to establish themselves in higher ranks.

They borrowed money and bought some players. One of them was Jan Kleinjan, a former Dutch international who played for Sparta Rotterdam and also in France.

But they gambled and lost.

The results didn't improve very much and Kleinjan was too old, too slow and injured too often to help FC Dordrecht to rise to the top. At the beginning of April, FC Dordrecht found themselves with a debt of about £225,000.

One of the biggest creditors was their group of players who had not received their salaries since the end of October last year.

Every time they accepted promises made by the board that payment would soon be made. But finally nobody believed that professional football at FC Dordrecht was a viable proposition. The players were training six times a week, but it was costing them money.

So their interest in the club was not high and Dordrecht lost more and more matches.

A bankruptcy seemed inevitable in April but then a group of wealthy local citizens tried to save the club, and commenced actions to find money; mostly by talking to the creditors . . . and succeeded.

The debts of FC Dordrecht decreased from £225,000 to £75,000, because the tax-man accepted a request for payment spread over many years and the group of players accepted a salary cut of 15 per cent per annum.

So, for this season FC Dordrecht is saved; but it is very unlikely that the club will still exist next year. Business-men from Gorinchem, a town some miles from Dordrecht, have plans to buy the club and give the franchise for professional football to their home-town-club SVW.

But not only small clubs like FC Dordrecht have financial problems; there are bigger ones from the eredivisie (first league) also in trouble.

Go ahead Eagles Deventer have a tax-debt of about £200,000 and will have to sell players; NAC Breda and VV Venlo are selling already. NAC told their Yugoslav players Budisic and Mohorovic they will have to go, and the position of Ronnie Goodlass (ex-Everton) is also doubtful.

Dramatic

The slide of VV Venlo is very dramatic. At the beginning of the season they wanted to make the jump to international standards, and contracted Hans Croon, former coach of Anderlecht and NEC Nijmegen.

But instead of winning, they started losing. In December they bought Eddie Krieger, the Austrian international *libero* of FC Bruges (Belgium) and fired Croon, but nothing could help them; they will be relegated to the second league.

A team having better results than expected is Feyenoord Rotterdam. The former European champions had a disastrous season in 1977-1978. They finished in the middle of the table, with gates dropping from an average of 24,214 to 18,739.

Youth team

As a result, they had to sell stars such as Wim Rijsbergen (to Bastia and now N.Y. Cosmos), Willy Kreuz (to Vöest Linz, Austria) and Nico Jansen (RWD Molenbeek, Belgium), and began the new season with new players Stanley Brard, Wim van Til, Ben Wijnstekers and André Stafleu, all coming from their youth-team.

They also wanted Peter Houtman. Houtman was on loan to FC Groningen last season and became top scorer of the second league. But the results in the beginning of the season weren't all that good; especially away from home. But two transfers in mid-season changed all that.

They bought 19-year-old international Petur Petursson of Akranes Iceland, and also a young centre-forward from second-division-team FC Den Bosch. His name is Jan Peters (not related to the international) and he took over the position of Peter Houtman. Houtman only scored five goals in 15 matches and was sold to FC Bruges in Belgium.

Avis bid for cup

ARIS BONNEWEG and Red Boys Differdingen have reached the final of the Luxembourg Cup.

Aris beat Progres Niederkorn 2-1 and 2-0 in the semi-finals while Red Boys were accounting for Young Boys Diekirch 2-1 in both legs.

Red Boys are favourites to win the cup and they are the most successful team in the knock-out competition in the country's history with 13 previous trophies, though they have not won it since 1972.

Aris who returned to the First Division this season, previously won the cup in 1967 for the first time.

Oddly enough Red Boys had an even more emphatic win over Young Boys in the League recently beating them 8-0 on their own ground. It left them top of the table with a point lead over Niedercorn.

These two clubs have the title race to themselves since Union and the vastly improved Jeunesse Esch are eight points adrift of Niedercorn who in turn are a point behind Red Boys.

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COUNTRY WS1

WEST HAM MISS THE BOAT BUT NOT PALACE . . .

by ERIC BATTY

AFTER Nottingham Forest eliminated Liverpool from the European Cup it was clear that unless the Anfield club slipped up very badly, they were going to walk away with the championship.

Only West Bromwich Albion and Forest, the latter being unable to score many goals at one spell with Tony Woodcock out of touch, were strong enough to stand in Liverpool's way, but long before the end of the campaign Liverpool were all but home and dry.

Phil Parkes, the West Ham goalkeeper bought for a record fee from Queen's Park Rangers.

Thus the competitive interest switched to the relegation stakes and the Second Division championship, which in the season just ended proved to be an exciting affair.

At the outset of the season I fancied Stoke City and West Ham to be amongst the front runners, and in the event Stoke clinched their place. But West Ham failed to live up to my hopes for a variety of reasons, not the least being a very serious deficiency in goal.

In the end, but too late, West Ham paid out a fortune for Phil Parkes, and in my opinion if Parkes could have been bought a year earlier, the Hammers would not have been relegated. But I understand that Queens Park Rangers were not prepared to part with Parkes earlier.

Another contributory factor to West Ham's failure was the frequent absence through injury of Trevor Brooking who without doubt is the classiest, most skilful, intelligent and imaginative player in the Division. He played in only 20 of West Ham's first 40 games, and they missed him badly.

Experience

Alan Devonshire is an extremely good player, and still improving, but he is nothing compared to Brooking. Alan Curbishley, another key figure in midfield for West Ham has been a great disappointment to me for when I first saw him appear in the top class, he looked to have everything but experience.

However, he has failed to develop and despite his undoubted skill he seems to me to be unable to make up his mind quickly where to play the ball, hesitates, and then of course, by the time he has made up his mind everything is closed down and all that is left is either an easy ball or a hopeful cross.

'Pop' Robson at 33 was lacking a bit in pace, but still showed marvellous anticipation and a variety of fabulous finishing skills that he has always had but his co-partner David Cross is only a blunt instrument by comparison. He did improve a lot after joining West Ham, thanks to John Lyall's coaching, but if he laid off better early balls and was more aware, he never has had the necessary skill to match Robson in my view, is with Jimmy Greenhoff of Manchester United the best striking forward never to have won full England caps from their generation.

Had Ron Greenwood taken over five or six years earlier I am sure that both these gifted players would have been recognised, but his call from the FA came too late for both men.

If West Ham failed, Stoke City clinched their promotion thanks largely to a very tight defence for at times they found goalscoring difficult and won quite a few games with very late goals.

Howard Kendall played a key part in Stoke's success and I have always had a fancy for the gifts of Garth Crooks, but the tough, bluff defenders were the lynch pins in the Stoke side. Joined by Mike Doyle from Manchester City he completed a back four that has never lacked muscle, and never been afraid of mixing it, and behind them Roger Jones looked very useful in goal.

I was not impressed by their big signing, Paul Randall from Bristol Rovers, and I don't think he will make much impact in the top class but Stoke were a strong, compact and workman-like side who rarely faltered as West Ham did, being beaten at home by Fulham and Orient, and dropping silly home points in drawn games against Wrexham, Leicester City, Sunderland and several more games when they should certainly have won on the play.

So only one of my hunches came off, but even if West Ham had gone up they would probably have found themselves in difficulty in the top division because too many of their players are quite ordinary, and they rely far too much on Phil Parkes, Billy Bonds, Trevor Brooking and 'Pop' Robson.

With Robson's future in doubt as I write, he may never have thought of quitting had he been destined for Division One again next season, but he has already lost the edge of his pace, and the Hammers would once more have struggled to get goals against the well organised First Division defences that are built to withstand a battering in the air.

I feel much the same about Stoke, for I feel fairly confident that they will struggle to retain their place in the top class. Going up with an ageing side is never a good thing, for older players can very quickly go over the hill and Stoke's crowds are not good enough to enable them to buy half a side at today's prices which is what I think they will find they need after a few games next season.

Newcastle, of course, were a disappointment, and I sympathise with their fans. They were made to look a very poor side at times, and near the end of the season their home crowds fell away badly, justifying my criticisms of them as their faithful fans will certainly know.

Before going any further, a quick word about Leicester City with whom I was very impressed, and an even briefer comment about Eiain McCulloch of Notts County who looked very promising when I saw him. I liked

West Ham's David Cross (9) gets his head to a high ball with team-mate Alan Devonshire in support in a Second Division match against Burnley, for whom Billy Rodaway (6) and Peter Robinson (9) are pictured.

his all round ability and his nose for the goal chance.

Leicester manager Jock Wallace destroyed my belief that there are no good managers or coaches in Scotland for he did a fine job with Leicester's youngsters, and backed up by a very useful goalkeeper in Mark Wallington, they should do well soon if the boys fulfill their early promise.

Now to the other three clubs that made the running . . . Brighton, Sunderland and Crystal Palace.

Brighton deserved to go up if only for their sheer consistency but they did not have many players who impressed me. I did like goalkeeper Eric Steele but perhaps I was just lucky, for I hear he is on the transfer list. Mark Lawrenson made a very good impression on me, clearly a player to watch and I also liked, to a lesser degree Andy Rollings.

But there the good news ends for I felt the rest were quite ordinary, and I was very disappointed with Peter Ward who has either run into a bad patch, or is simply not good enough in fierce competition when tightly marked.

I had only seen Ward on TV this season and clearly, at his own pace he has considerable skill and is no mean marksman, but a question mark must hang over him until he proves himself.

Meanwhile I feel fairly confident that Teddy Maybank will struggle against the equally big men in the First Division. Another point against Brighton was the way they played in a key match away to West Ham when they were obviously frightened out of their skins and played so defensively that Maybank spent more time in his own penalty area than he did anywhere else.

If Brighton play that way away from home next season, they will not get a sniff, and if, as I suspect, many of their players are not good enought to hold their own in the top class, then like Stoke I doubt if they will have the money to buy the men they will need to stay up.

Crowds tend to dwindle when a team hits a bad patch, and though Brighton have been well supported (as have Stoke) in their promotion year, they may find that struggling in Division One the crowds will dwindle and add to their cash problems.

Sunderland were another of the big five in the promotion race, and they proved themselves by eliminating Everton (2-1) from the FA Cup.

Like Stoke, Sunderland had a very good compact defence, and a fine goalkeeper in Barry Siddall. They also had several players who knew where the goal was and could find it; in particular Wilf Rostron and Wayne Entwistle impressed me in this department.

Craftsman

But Sunderland lacked a bit in quality or finesse in constructing their attacks as old fashioned fans at Roker must know. Given a top class craftsman in midfield, or better yet, two craftsmen, I think they would have made it. But it seems to me that they must be amongst the favourites to go up next season, even if I think they might struggle upstairs, amongst the big guns.

This leaves Crystal Palace who came at the death to go up as champions. Terry Venables has clearly done a fine job, and Palace are in my book better equipped to do well in the top flight than either Brighton or Stoke, if only because they are going up with a young side, and in my view young players can adapt themselves better, learning from experience and going on to improve.

I like the skills of Vince Hilaire, though I fear he'll take some stick next season and for his sake I hope he has the character to take it and survive.

Palace have a host of gifted young players, and no doubt plenty more on the way up, as all the good clubs should have, but I have reservations about some of their older players and how they will get on in Division One.

In particular I fear Dave Swindlehurst will struggle against the best defences but that is a minor point, for I am very impressed overall. I specially like the fact that many of the Palace forwards are not big men, averaging only about 5ft 9in with Hilaire a mere 5ft 6in for I go for good players regardless of size, unlike many modern managers.

The one thing I didn't like about Palace last season was that they seemed to me to be trying to play at 125 miles an hour. Most First Division teams play at around 100 m.p.h. (relatively speaking), while in my book, real football should be more like waltz-time, slow-slow-quick-quick (when something good is on).

But I think Palace will learn, adapt themselves and improve, and I give them the best chance of doing well in the top flight, and I stress that I felt that way about them, even before they moved to the top place.

More than ever before it is becoming clear that in football the big clubs will go on getting richer, while the poorer clubs struggle, as the race to sign the best available players becomes a matter of money.

Because I have expressed doubts about Stoke and Brighton, this does not mean that they will come straight back down again — it may be delayed for a while because there are some other quite poor teams at the bottom of the First Division, outside the top ten.

French interntionals Lacombe, Tresor and Platini in New York.

Optimistic France

by ANDRE DUCLOS

FRENCH football, perforce — at least at international level — is thinking about the 1982 World Cup; and optimistically. Losing with a much depleted team in Bratislava — no Tresor, Rocheteau, Platini, Bathenay — was no disgrace. That game belongs to the receding past now, the Strange Interlude of Giants Stadium, New Jersey, has supervened, yet it is legitimate to see (though you have doubtless heard it before) that with rather better finishing, France migh even have won.

Certainly there was nothing to be ashamed of, and much hope was created for the future; and for 1982. FRANCE FOOTBALL's French Player of the Year, Jean Petit, the little, lively, 29-year-old Monaco midfielder, certainly hopes to be in Spain then, even though he'll be well into his thirties.

In the absence of Bathenay, whom team manager Michel Hidalgo didn't want to risk at so early a stage of his come back, Petit's contribution was vital. At the beginning of the second half, Petit really thought the Czechs were about to crack, the French would win. Perhaps if Lacombe had been there to provide the vital finishing touches, they would have done. Meanwhile it is good to see this talented midfield man emerge internationally so late in his career; don't forget that the elegant half-back Guillou got into the national team when well past his 30th birthday.

We do know, moreover, that the brisk little Nantes outside-left, Loic Amisse, is quite capable of reproducing his fine club form at this top level. Before Bratislava, there were doubts, and his choice elicited criticism. Michel Hidalgo just wouldn't have it. He could not, he said afterwards, understand why the choice of Amisse was criticised just because he hadn't done too well in the past; players needed time to adjust themselves to international football. Amisse had in fact made five appearances but had never played a full game. This time he knew he had to do well or drop forever out of the reckoning. He gave enough trouble to the hefty right-back Barmos to cause that gentleman to step on him when he was on the ground; and to reassure us that we now have a young left winter capable of troubling any defence in the international field.

In the absence of Lacombe, Marc Berdoll played centre-forward in Bratislava, and it was interesting to note that on the day before the game, he stood watching his companions in training, though he was perfectly fit. Berdoll explained that he got into the habit at Angers, where one didn't train the day before the game, which suited him well. He had to change his habits during his spell in West Germany, where there was training twice a day, including the day before a game. I suppose some might again say that here's proof that Michel Hidalgo just isn't tough enough as a manager, an accusation made against him in Buenos Aires. Could it just be that he knows when to be flexible?

Stones that the builder rejected; or neglected. Having laid out substantial sums of money for two new strikers, Diallo and Zarembo, neither of whom has truly come off this season, Metz suddenly struck gold, and goals, on their own doorstep.

Patrick Formica, a name which may strike strangely on English ears, struck very hard and true when Metz brought him on during the second half of their home league game against Paris FC. Never before used in the first team, the 20-year-old Formica rattled in three goals, thus confirming the prolific form he had been showing in the reserve team, which competes in Division III. He has been with Metz since 1975, and this season had got 21 goals in the second team's 21 games, making him far and away the chief bombardier of his division.

Formica, whose brother, Roger, once played for Nancy, reminded many Metz fans of their old favourite, the French international centre-forward, Theo Cisowski. There could scarcely be a finer recommendation. Now this excellent young player joins Pleimelding, still banging them in for Lille, as a centre-forward to cherish and to follow. Pleimelding got another two goals recently against Saint Etienne when they lost a game at Lille which for an hour they seemed almost sure to win. Magnificent goalkeeping by Bergeroo was their undoing; then Pleimelding knocked the nails into their coffin.

We know how football was reborn in Nancy, where the famous club had gone to the wall. Now, thanks largely to a plump and vigorous young businessman and his lively manager, it is blossoming again in Montpellier; where it appeared to have died the death. It took a treble amalgamation to do it. In 1972, the Montpellier Littoral club, itself a mere two years old, slithered out of the Second Division into the Third at its own request because it hadn't the money to survive.

When it combined with the A.S. Paillade club of the Division of Honour, two years later, things didn't go much better at the outset. But then a second amalgamation took place, this time with the little amateur club called F.C. Nettoiement Montepllier, managed by a vigorous young businessman called Louis Nicollin, from Lyons. His dynamism changed things utterly. A stadium which then could take only 5,000 has now a capacity of 17,000 and will probably be increased to 20,000.

Turned down for funds at first by the municipality, M. Nicollin swooped the very day the administration changed; and got his way. The club is now in the Second Division has its sights on the first and has gained a tremendous reputation as Cup fighters. Aix and Toulon were put out in 1975/6, Marseille, the holders themselves, in 1976/77, while this season their victims have included Nimes and Lyon of Division 1.

The manager is an ex-Montpellier, Lyon and Bordeaux half-back called Robert Nouzaret who is so happy there that he says if he ever leaves Montpellier-Paillade, it will mean the end of his managerial career; an extraordinary statement. Well known players such as the centre-forward Curioni, renowned in the past as a "difficult" player, has settled down splendidly. It just shows what a forceful President can do.

BRAVO SUTTON

by BRIAN GLANVILLE

CHIETI'S best paid players in Italy's Division III (C 1), earn £7,000 a year; all of them were on a bonus of £200 a man to beat Sutton in the Final of the recent Anglo-Italian Alitalia Cup. Yet Sutton, whose best rewarded players make barely £30 a week out of football, rode the shock of a 1-0 defeat at home by Chieti to go out to the Abruzzi, take a 2-0 lead, win the game and the Cup 2-1, and thus become the first English club to win the semi-professional version of the tournament: the fourth.

It was an extraordinary demonstration of what is habitually termed the "depth" of English soccer. Sutton, though this was no less than their 62nd match of the season, are genuinely semi-professional. Chieti are utterly professional. The one major difference which has been made to the Isthmian League, where Sutton play, since the abolition by the F.A. of the distinction between pros and amateurs is that former pros are now eligible to play there.

This does make a vast difference, clearly, to the talent at the command of the Suttons, Enfields and Hendons of this world. The Sutton team which won so well in Chieti, for example, owed much to the dominant performance at centre-back of the long haired Dave Dyer, "giant of the penalty area," as the *Gazzetta Dello Sport* called him, and Dyer, a 22-year-old sheet metal worker, spent four years as an apprentice and a young professional with Birmingham City. "Waldo" Waldron, the left midfield player, with whom his colleagues love to play, was several years with Millwall. The younger Rains, whose brother scored Sutton's second goal, recently joined them from Fulham.

Travelling with them to Rome, then Chieti, I was much impressed by Sutton's approach, both on and off the field. They retained the abullience of amateurs, but they had the serious, intelligent approach of professionals: as exemplified by their splendid opening attack. Keith Blunt, the qualified F.A. senior coach, fervent disciple of Lancaster Gate's Charlie Hughes, who is their manager, had worked out the previous day the long ball methods with which to disorient the sweeper.

From such a move, a ball swung beautifully by little Fraser, from the left, to Bobby Southam, on the right, and splendidly anticipated by the deep right winger, Chieti's defence was caught cold. Southam raced on for a shot which Violini, in goal, did awfully well to turn over the bar.

Much play was made by Chieti and their pleasant manager, the Milanese Volpi, of the fact that Sutton had the strong wind behind them in the first half. But at least they made decent use of it; while Chieti contributed to their own disaster by failing badly to support their two strikers. Later on, in the words of the excellent Southam, a mail order furniture buyer, scorer of the first goal: "They played silly, second half. They didn't play down the middle, they put it out to the wings and crossed, which suited us against their small forwards." *Bravo, Sutton.*

Never underestimate an Italian Mamma, especially if she be a Sicilian. There is reason to believe that Mamma Bagni, "Sicilian origin, tough character," as one Italian newspaper described her, has been Milan's secret weapon in their battle for the League against Perugia. At all events she made a splendidly comprehensive job of upsetting her son, Salvatore, and by extension the whole of the Perugia team when they played their vital home match against Milan, just as she had distressed poor Bagni immediately before the home game with Roma.

That, you might say, was her finest, or perhaps most deplorable, hour; she actually waited outside the ground to abuse the unfortunate brunette Steffania, Salvatore's new girl friend, of whom she disapproves. Needless to say, this whipped up the fans to abuse her in their turn, and during the match against Milan, the poor girl was actually pelted by them as she sat in the grandstand.

On the field, the 21-year-old Bagni, one of the best right wingers in the tournament, was so upset by insults from the crowd that he replied to them in kind, totally lost his head, was as inept in the second half as he'd been effective in the first, and actually kicked the ball at his team mate, Butti, who was not amused.

The sequel was apologies all round; apologies in public by Bagni to his manager, Castagner, and all the team, with offers of champagne, an apology by Mum, promoted by her unfortunate spouse, Bagni's father, who as a good romagnonolo, from the North, was greatly embarrassed by these Southern outbursts.

Twenty years or so before Bagni delighted, or disappointed, the crowds in Perugia, Michelangelo Montouri was a refulgent star with Fiorentina, with Brazil's right winger Julinho the chief reason for their success in the Championship.

Now, the poor fellow lives in penury, hoping that Fiorentina's supporters will raise enough money for him from charity matches to enable him to buy a newspaper stall.

It's a deeply distressing story. Montouri, some of you may remember, was a splendidly gifted attacking inside-right with fine close control, a quick mind, good finishing power. A Catholic priest domiciled in Chile recommended him to Befani, the President of Fiorentina, while on a visit to Florence.

Montouri at the time had been transferred from Racing Club of Buenos Aires to the relative obscurity of Catholic University, of Santiago, Chile. There, he finished second highest scorer in the League to the Anglo-Chilean centre-forward George Robledo, once of Barnsley and Newcastle United.

Arrived

Befani bought him, but when he arrived in Florence nobody cared. They had besieged the railway station for Julinho, pride of the 1954 Brazilian World Cup team, but Montouri's name meant nothing to them. It soon did, even though he did not begin very well. He made up a glorious wing with Julinho, scored goals galore, but one day, in a mere training game, one of those ludicrous, disastrous, unforseeable accidents not only ended his career, but virtually ended his working life.

A ball struck him so hard on the head that he suffered brain damage, and had to undergo an operation. He has never recovered the full use of his faculties, though for a time he became a manager in Chile — and of minor clubs in Italy.

Now, he can scarcely leave his house in Santiago, can scarcely walk. Those of us who remember this little, almost Aztec, figure, remember his inspired gyrations, his daring solos, his well taken goals, will hope that at least he can spend the rest of his life in decent comfort.

Ivan Bertuolo (Capt. Chieti) and Larry Pritchard (Capt. Sutton) with Mr. B. Daniels (Referee).

THE GAMBLE THAT FAILED

HENNES WEISWEILER is generally the most meticulous of coaches, leaving nothing to chance. Yet after 1st FC Köln's elimination in the Champions' Cup semi-finals there's no option but to conclude that for once this past season Weisweiler gambled — and lost.

Club focus on 1st Fc Koln by Keir Radnedge

Although as I write Köln are sixth in the *Bundesliga*, within spitting distance of a place in the UEFA Cup next season, for much of the season their league form has been disappointing.

The truth is that they put all their eggs in the Champions' Cup basket and the risky manner in which they kept only half an eye on the league left them fearing complete absence from Europe next season.

And that would be a major blow to Weisweiler's pride for he stands as the most respected coach in West Germany, if not Europe. He's 59 now and had set his calculating heart on landing the Champions' Cup this season for the first time in his career.

He will never have — or waste — a better chance. Having won the tactical battle in Nottingham in the first leg of the semi-final, he gambled too early in the second leg on the scoreless draw which would have been enough to take Köln to the final on home territory in Munich.

Köln were handicapped by injuries. One took Dieter Müller out of the game just before half time, the other vastly minimised the effectiveness of Heinz Flohe, who substituted for Müller without creating much of a stir in the Forest defence.

One header from Ian Bowyer and it was all over for Weisweiler.

Now it's back to square one for the man who first earned international fame for his nine-year reign at Borussia Moenchengladbach, whom he turned from regional league nobodies into one of Europe's most advanced and attractive teams, as well as domestic champions, cup-winners and UEFA Cup victors.

Weisweiler, once a stopper centre half in the 1950s with Köln and Bayern Munich, works with a thorough and painstaking approach well suited to the German soccer mentality. It certainly didn't work at Barcelona, whom he joined from Borussia in 1975.

Realist

Weisweiler, the determined realist, had no inclination to bend to the tactical whims of Johan Cruyff and their battle ended with his departure inside a year.

Barcelona's loss was clearly Köln's gain. In the doldrums for several years, they looked to Weisweiler for a rebirth. They got it too — but at the cost of the premature retirement of the brilliant Wolfgang Overath, who had been to Köln what Cruyff was to Barcelona.

This time it was Weisweiler who won the day. Overath stepped out abruptly to take up a public relations contract with Adidas and Köln went on without him to land the 1978 league and cup double — only the third team in West German soccer history to do so.

It was a triumph which would have delighted Franz Kremer, who had been president for more than 20 years as Köln established themselves in the 1950s and 1960s.

In fact the club's history goes back to the turn of the century although confusion reigns as to which is 'right' to claim for the club's foundation.

Although the German championship continued up until 1944, the final days of the war were a time of total chaos in the country. Football was the last thing on anybody's mind, so it wasn't until February 1948 that the 1st FC Köln was created from the ashes of three long-established clubs, FC Köln (founded in 1901), Kölner BC (also founded in 1901) and SV Köln-Sulz (1907).

Neither of these had achieved anything on the national stage — but then, the process was a tortuous one.

Competitions

Up until 1963 the West German championship was not organised on a national basis. Instead there were half a dozen regional competitions whose winners played off in a something resembling a mini-World Cup, with the winners of the grand final being proclaimed champions.

There was also a knock-out cup competition as well, and it was through this that Köln first took their place on the national stage in 1954, when they lost 1-0 in extra time in the final against Stuttgart.

That was a big disappointment for Köln's star left winger Hans Schäfer, but he had more than a consolation a month or two later by lining up in the West German team who celebrated their return to the FIFA fold by winning the World Cup — scoring that famous 3-2 victory over Hungary in the final in Berne.

Schäfer was later turned into an all-round inside forward by Köln, and played in the 1958 and 1962 World Cups, his penalty box sharpness now allied to a creative wisdom which surprised the fans who knew him first as one of the top scorers in the regional leagues in the early 1950s.

He played on until 1964-65, retiring only after injury had — unfortunately for Köln — kept him out of the finely-balanced Champions' Cup duel which saw the Germans beaten on the toss of a coin in the quarter finals by Liverpool.

Back to 1954 . . . on the other wing for West Germany, and scoring two of the goals against Hungary, was Helmut Rahn, a burly individualist who would join Köln in 1959 and lift them at the end of the season to their first championship final.

They went down 3-2 to Uwe Seeler's Hamburg, but two years later returned to land the title for the first time in style, through a 4-0 win over Nürnberg. By now the youngsters were coming through who would help form the backbone of the national team for nearly a decade.

Playing mainly at left back, but also in other defensive roles when required, was the blond Karl-Heinz Schnellinger, one of Europe's most outstanding defenders since the war. Tough, fast, a relentless marker and inspiring attacker, Schnellinger would later leave for Italy, playing with huge success for Mantova, Roma and Milan.

But he was back to line up for the national team in the 1966 World Cup Final at Wembley, where two of his team-mates were boys who had been Köln reserves in 1962 — Wolfgang Weber and Wolfgang Overath.

Weber, a tough stopper, will be remembered for his last-minute equaliser at 2-2 against England. Serious illness later brought an early halt to his playing career, but he continues in football now as boss of Werder Bremen.

Overath, one of the world's most accomplished midfield masters with that glorious left foot and those long raking passes, achieved a unique World Cup treble — finishing as a winner in 1974, as runner-up in 1966 and as a member of the third place team in 1970.

Overath owed his original first team promotion at Köln to former Yugoslav wing half Zlatko Cajkovski, who carried on from the championship win in 1963 to make Köln runners-up in 1963 and then propel them to win the first Bundesliga title in 1964.

It was fitting that Köln should have been initial winners, for Kremer had been one of the most insistent voices proclaiming that it was only thanks to a federal league system that West German soccer could progress.

How right he was!

In winning that first Bundesliga Köln used only 15 players — one of them, right winger Karl-Heinz Thielen, is now the club's general manager.

Yet despite the prowess of Weber and Overath and the arrival of a shrewd striker in Johannes Löhr — a destroyer of England in the 1970 World Cup in Leon and now Weisweiler's aide — Köln failed to regain the championship until last season.

They had in between scored some success in the cup. But even then they had to go through the hell of losing in the final three years on the trot — 2-1 to Offenbach in 1971, then 2-1 in extra time first to Bayern then to Borussia Moenchengladbach.

Finally, it was in 1977 that they broke their jinx. But even so Hertha Berlin took Köln to extra time in both the first game and the replay before Weisweiler's men triumphed 1-0 (first match 1-1). The man who scored the two golden goals was Dieter Müller, enhancing his deceptive claim to be the new Gerd Müller.

Ian Bowyer heads the goal which put Nottingham Forest into the 1979 European Cup Final and sunk FC Cologne.

Having won the cup once Köln hung on without much trouble last season, conceding only one goal in seven games on their way to defeating Fortuna Düsseldorf 2-0.

But having won the league as well there was no question but that Köln would opt for a place in the Champions' Cup, adding yet another semi-final to their European record of places in the last four in the Cup-winners' and Fairs' Cups.

Forest underlined, however, that Köln have an unhappy record against British opposition. Dundee beat them 8-1 in the 1962-63 Champions' Cup, Liverpool won the toss of a coin in 1964-65 and Queen's Park Rangers and Tottenham have put them out of the UEFA Cup.

And while Köln are a multi-sports club, with 2,300 members and facilities for handball, table tennis, chess and gymnastics, it is success out in the 59,000-capacity Müngersdorfer stadium which is most important.

And that is why the gamble Weisweiler took in concentrating on the Champions' Cup has temporarily dimmed the popularity of the man who remains — far more than any of his star players — the biggest name in sport in the Rhineland.

THE PLAYERS

Goal

HARALD SCHUMACHER. Aged 25 — 6 youth caps. Joined Köln in 1972 from amateur Schwarz-Weiss Düren. On the fringe of the West German senior squad. Nicknamed Toni after another goalkeeper named Schumacher who valiantly defied Liverpool at Anfield in the 1964-65 Champions' Cup.

GERALD EHRMANN. Reserve. Aged 21. One Youth cap. Joined two years ago from amateur TSV Tauberbischofsheim. At 12st 7lb the heaviest player in the squad.

Defence

BERNARD CULLMANN. Was 30 on New Year's Day. He played 23 times for West Germany, five times for the B team and three times for the under-23s. Sweeper for Köln but has played much of his international football in midfield — as in the early stages of the 1974 World Cup Finals. Cullmann would surely have gained more caps but for Franz Beckenbauer. Joined from Porz in 1969.

ROLAND GERBER. 25. Seven caps for West Germany B. Joined from FV Lauda four years ago and is on the fringe of the senior team. Right back.

HERBERT HEIN. 25. Joined at 15 as a youth from amateur team Quadrath-Ichendorf. 12 junior caps, three under-23 and one B.

HARALD KONOPKA. 26. Joined from Düren 99, Karl Schnellinger's original club, in 1971. Five junior caps, seven under-23, ten B and one at senior level — in last summer's World Cup against Italy as substitute.

REINER NICOT. 24. Ten appearances for West Germany's amateur team. Raised in the Köln youth teams.

GERD STRACK. 23. Five junior caps, one at B level. Tall central defender who was rushed back for the Glasgow Rangers Champions' Cup tie to cope with the aerial bombardment, though he had to be helped off in the second leg. Central defender.

HERBERT ZIMMERMANN. 26. Seven full caps, four at B level. A Bayern Munich cast-off who joined Köln via Engers FV in 1974. Played first at left back then did well when moved into midfield in emergency. One of Köln's most adaptable defenders, able to close mark an opposing striker or midfielder. Another '78 World Cup man — he was substituted in the game against Italy by club-mate Konopka. Scored West Germany's opening goal in their recent 2-0 win in Wales in the European championship.

JÜRGEN GLOWACZ. 26. Two B caps and two junior. Began with fellow Bundesliga side Werder Bremen, who released him to Köln's minor neighbours Schwarz-Weiss. Moved across the city in 1971.

Midfield

HEINZ FLOHE. 31. Köln's most experienced international by far. Joined in 1966 from TSV Euskirchen when 18 and has since won 39 West German caps at senior level, one B, four under-23 and four junior. Only in the past two or three years has he established himself in the national team, more through the departures of Overath and Netzer than thanks to his own consistency. Flohe has taken over from Overath the mantle of club midfield controller but is a wing half type more than inside forward, rather more direct and not as subtle as his predecessor. Dogged by injury since limping out of the 0-0 World Cup draw with Italy in Argentina, after which he announced his retirement from international football.

HERBERT NEUMANN. 25. Joined from Porz, the club who discovered Cullmann, in the same year, 1969. However he had to wait much longer for recognition, finally forcing his way into the team after a lively rivalry with Argentina's Ricardo Horacio Neumann. Herbert Neumann has played once for West Germany's juniors, once for the B team and his only senior appearance was against England in the 2-1 win a year ago. He damaged a hamstring in that game, missed the chance to stake a claim for Argentina and has been overlooked since.

NORBERT SCHMITZ. 20. Product of the Köln youth teams.

JÜRGEN MOHR. 20. Signed from Borussia Brand last summer.

THOMAS KROTH. 19. Played 18 times for West Germany's juniors and was picked up from Kickers Offenbach last summer.

BERND SCHUSTER. 19. Signed last summer from FC Augsburg, the club where Helmut Haller's explosive career began and ended. Schuster has played 10 times for West Germany youth and has been considered one of their brightest talents. One noted manager recently called him a cross between Beckenbauer, Overath and Schnellinger. Can also play sweeper.

JÜRGEN WILLKOMM. Aged 18. Youth product.

Attack

ROGER VAN GOOL. 28. Has won nine caps for Belgium, virtually all before his £200,000 move from Brugge, whom he helped reach the 1976 UEFA Cup Final just before his transfer. Van Gool began his career with a small town team, Wilpert, came to light with Antwerp, then went on to Brugge. Illness and injury have dogged his three years at Köln, but on form he remains a forward to be feared.

KLAUS KÖSLING. 21. Signed professional at 18, a product of Köln's own youth sections.

DIETER MÜLLER. 25 on April Fool's Day. Joined Köln in 1973 from Kickers Offenbach and has now won 15 junior caps, six amateur, three B and 12 senior. Made an explosive international debut in the semi-finals of the 1976 European championship, appearing as substitute and scoring the hat-trick which turned defeat into victory against hosts Yugoslavia. Has never quite lived up to that beginning, though a regular member of the national squad, appearing in Argentina. Coach Weisweiler thinks Müller sometimes underplays his own ability and has never been afraid to drop him — as he did earlier this season.

DIETER PRESTIN. 22. Köln youth product who signed professional in 1975. Has won five junior caps. Utility player who can also play at full back.

PIERRE LITTBARSKI. Was 19 on April 16. Signed last summer from Hertha Zehlendorf, with whom he won eight junior caps and is rated one of the country's most promising attackers. It was his brilliant form earlier this season which allowed Weisweiler the luxury of dropping Müller.

HOLGER WILLMER. 20. Signed in 1977 from VfB Lübeck. Won 19 junior caps.

YASUHIKO OKUDERA. 27. The only Japanese playing top football in Europe. A left wing striker Okudera played 42 times for Japan before taking the gamble on a career in West Germany in 1977, when he left FC Furukawa Tokio. Had trouble settling mainly because of the language, but quickly became extremely popular with the fans. Scored Köln's last equaliser at 3-3 in Nottingham.

Looking at soccer with DERICK ALLSOP

Worthington crossroads

OF all the players who have made the summer trek to North America few can have had a bumpier ride than Frank Worthington.

The Bolton striker found himself at the centre of a series of trans-Atlantic and was eventually ordered by the NASL not to play for the club he had signed for.

This latest — and typical — chapter of a colourful and controversial career began in the middle of the English season, when a rejuvenated Worthington declared his intention to sample soccer in the States.

Dallas Tornado were first off the mark, but after making initial enquiries' Bolton manager Ian Greaves accused them of tapping.

He warned Dallas and the rest of America that Worthington wouldn't be allowed to leave the club on loan and that action would be taken against anyone who approached him.

Worthington, however, insisted that unless Bolton granted him his wish he would not sign a new contract with them. Finally, Greaves realised it was more than a hollow threat and gave him clearance.

Dallas immediately revealed their interest, but so too did Philadelphia Fury and Detroit Express. A few days later Worthington announced he would be joining Philadelphia.

Dallas were furious. They say they put the matter in the hands of Worthington's agent, but the player heard nothing and assumed they had changed their minds.

Anything but. They contacted Worthington — who still hadn't signed for Philadelphia — and offered to make him the best-paid player on their books.

On the day Worthington scored one of the finest goals of any season, against Ipswich, he decided he wanted to join Dallas.

He said: "They were the first club to come in for me and Dallas is the place I really fancy. I don't feel I've let down Philadelphia. They didn't make the effort to come and sign me, Dallas did."

Francisco Marcos, the Dallas official who flew in to do the job, said: "There's no way we've cheated on Philadelphia. We were in before anyone and we have gone about this in the proper manner."

Philadelphia didn't agree. They claimed Worthington was their player and demanded a full inquiry by the NASL.

The League's decision went in favour of Philadelphia. They ruled that Worthington's verbal agreement with them was binding and that the deal with Dallas was invalid.

An incensed Marcos responded: "We are bitter and disillusioned. We are dealing with two sets of rules and now we have lost our man. Where else do you get the First Division's top scorer?"

Worthington, bemused by the whole affair, said: "I have been told by Phil Woosnam that I must play for Philadelphia, so that's what I will do. I wanted to play for Dallas but I will abide by the decision and hope all do.

"I sincerely hope this is the end of the business because it has left me drained. All I want to do now is play football. It will be Philadelphia this summer and then back to Bolton."

DERWELL HAPPY

WEST GERMANY have taken their first, impressive stride in the European Championship and suggest they could be marching all the way to the forefront of the game again.

After two goalless draws, in Malta and Turkey, there was a suspicion that the decline so clearly revealed in the World Cup had not been checked.

But on May 2 the Germans went to Wrexham and changed everything. They brushed aside Wales, tilted Group Seven in their favour and declared their intention to restore their reputation in Italy next year.

After a few early scrapes they displayed the old German arrogance, purpose and enterprise. They might have finished with a hefty win, but the 2-0 success was solid enough.

Both goals were created by the powerful running and deceptive control of defender Manfred Kaltz. He stormed up the right win in the 30th minute and crossed for Herbert Zimmermann to score with a header which went in off new international George Berry.

Six minutes into the second half the last semblance of a contest disappeared when Kaltz meandered his way up the left and centred perfectly for Klaus Fischer to head past Dai Davies.

That was just reward for Fischer, who was one of the night's outstanding performers. The man who too often looked ineffective last summer emerged as a mobile and incisive striker.

Jupp Derwall, the man now guiding West Germany, said: "Fischer plays well for his country when he's playing well for his club.

"He, like all our players, is match fit now and we can see the benefit. We had a long break during the winter and as a result our performances against Malta and Turkey suffered.

"But by beating Wales we have taken an important step towards reaching the finals. I was very satisfied not only with the result but also with the performance. In the end we dominated the game and deserved to win.

"We have taken four points from our away games and I'm confident that we can complete the task from our three home games. If we play against Wales in Cologne as we did in Wrexham we can win the group."

There is far less optimism in the Welsh camp. Although they retain group leadership on goal difference they are left with three away matches to negotiate.

Manger Mike Smith put on a brave face when he said: "It is hard for us now but all is not lost. It is up to us to do it away. We did very well until Germany scored, you are bound to get stronger when you score. But not until they scored their second goal did they look the better side."

I beg to differ, Mike. I thought the Germans took command midway through the first half. For the rest of the match Sepp Maier was never really troubled, the Welsh were pedestrian and even the famed fire went out.

Wales' midfield was outwitted and eventually trampled on by the resourceful Germans, whose general technique and organisation was far superior. Yes, it looks as if West Germany are on their way back.

New 'Best' victim

NORTHERN IRELAND'S never-ending search for the 'the new George Best' has found another victim.

He is Norman Whiteside, a lad of barely 14. Like Best he is a skinny kid and appears to be talented, but that is hardly grounds for burdening him with the Best label.

In fact, he is already taller than Best and instead of a black mop has a crew cut straight out of the US Marines. He scored a goal and made the other in Northern Ireland's victory against Wales in the final of a recent European schoolboys tournament in England, yet his leggy style bears no resemblance to Best's.

Whiteside is destined for Manchester United – unfortunately another link – and Old Trafford's anxious bosses are trying to play down his potential.

Tommy Cavanagh, number 2 with United and Northern Ireland, said: "He's had a lot of publicity but he's still very young. He could have a bright future but there's no point in putting pressure on a lad of his age. He has a lot to learn."

Has it not occurred to the pushers that we are unlikely to be blessed with a new Best. Leave the kids to develop their own styles and images. They will be all the better for it.

READERS' LETTERS

SIR — The action of the Scottish FA television sub-committee not to allow the showing of the Wales-West Germany European championship tie made me very angry.

After a long and harsh winter that has plagued Scottish football with numerous postponements and a diet of relatively mediocre league football, the prospect of seeing some top-class matches on television was rather appealing.

The showing of top-level soccer competition, such as the European championship, on television gives the fan the chance to experience skill and excitement often lacking in domestic league fixtures.

While accepting that televising of major games may be a reason for Scotland's poor crowds, (though I doubt it but that is another subject) I believe it was irresponsible of the SFA to deprive Scottish fans of this game.

In trying to raise attendances the association try to convince us, by not showing games, that Scottish football is good by any standards. This not only gives us a dangerously false impression of ourselves, it also deprives us of good football. If the SFA let us see our deficiencies we may be able to solve them while enjoying ourselves.

Steven G. Leathley,
Dollar, Nr Stirling.

SIR — I am writing on behalf of Balfron High School. I was wondering if you could send us some information on French and German football as a group of us are doing a project?

Stewart Crombie, Stewart Holt, Richard Leaning, Malcolm Littler,
Balfron, Glasgow.

**Regular features on West German and French football appear in these pages, dealing both with past and present events. You might make further inquiries to: Federation Francaise de Football, 60 avenue d'Iena, F-75783 Paris Cedex 16, France; and Deutscher Fussball-Bund, Postfach 710405, D-6000 Frankfurt 71, West Germany.*

SIR — Would it be possible for you to send me any information or addresses where I can purchase German and Italian soccer shirts, in particular Juventus and Borussia Moenchengladbach?

Michael Spens,
Bridge of Ean, Perth.

**If your local sports retailers have nothing similar, try writing to the club: Juventus Football Club, Galleria San Federico 54, 10121 Torino, Italy; and VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, Bökelstrasse 65, 4050 Mönchengladbach 1, West Germany.*

SIR — I congratulate you on such a good magazine. I'm a fan of European football, especially the Dutch. I support Ajax and know the names of most of their players but there are a lot of Dutch teams whose players I don't know. I would be very grateful if you could publish the teams' usual players.

Mike Kehoe,
Milton Keynes.

**Watch out for an end-of-season feature on Holland shortly!*

SIR — It is with great interest that I read Keir Radnedge's article about the first Champions' Cup competition. In order to help complete your records I enclose a photocopy from the Anderlecht handbook detailing the referees for their first round tie with Voros Lobogo (1st leg Mayer (Austria), 2nd leg Brokonhorst (Holland)).

May I suggest you publish a similar survey of the second Champions' Cup for which there are no details available now. Also detailed information about the first Cup-winners' Cup and the Fairs' Cup would be very interesting.

For instance, I still do not know the exact result of Birmingham-Barcelona (1-1 or 0-0) of the second Fairs' Cup in 1958-60 and whether the teams were club sides operating under their city name or selections of various clubs of those cities.

J. N. Fraiponts,
's Gravenwezel, Belgium.

**Thanks for the referees' names! In return, the first leg score in the 1960 Fairs' final was 0-0 and the sides were the club teams of Birmingham City and CF Barcelona.*

SIR — In common with many of your readers I am particularly interested in Brazil and wondered whether your Scottish American specialists might be able to print some data covering Brazil's unofficial games between the 1974 and 1978 World Cups.

M. Cox,
Didsbury, Manchester.

**Because of the nature of these games – some played in the interior, others almost behind closed doors – records have been very scarce. However an official list is now being compiled and when it appears we'll answer this query and also other requests concerning the 1975 South American championship.*

SIR — I am confused to read in a book that five Benfica players appeared in the World Cup semi-final against England in 1966. I know Coluna, Augusto, Torres, Simoes and Eusebio played for Benfica, but I thought Graca and the goalkeeper, Pereira, did so too.

Eric Adamson,
Hove, Sussex.

**In fact Benfica signed Graca after the Finals. Regarding goalkeeper Pereira, that's a common matter of confusion. The World Cup goalkeeper was Jose Pereira of Belenenses, no relation to the Benfica goalkeeper, Alberto da Costa Pereira.*

SHOP WINDOW

Advertisements from bona fide collectors and non-profit making organisations printed FREE of charge.

WANTED 1973 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL PROGRAMME — Ajax v Juventus (Belgrade). Please write for offer in exchange including Celtic — Year of Triumph brochure, Man. Utd. Books No. 4 & 5, programmes, pennants, etc. D. Latcham, 2 West View, Ferryhill, Co. Durham.

I AM SEEKING match programmes from the recent tour of the New York Cosmos into Europe: Cosmos v Bayern-Munich, Brescia FC, Freiburger FC, Chelsea FC, Atletico Madrid, AEK, Red Star Belgrade, and Galatasaray. Also any other programmes involving NASL teams. In exchange I can send to you one Cosmos programme or whatever is possible. Gene Borowski, 50 Raymond Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314, USA.

COVENTRY CITY (LONDON) SUPPORTERS' CLUB organise cheap travel facilities to all first team home and away games (in conjunction with APFSCIL) from London. The club undertakes a varied social programme and produce our own supporters news magazine 3/4 times a year. For further details please write to: Colin Heys, 30 Finucane Drive, Orpington, Kent, England.

WANTED: Middlesbrough v Derby programme, 1974-5 and French football magazines. Mark Jones, 116 Kirkleatham Lane, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 5DD.

FOR SALE. International football book No. 3, 1961 edition, offers enclosing sae please. Also would like to contact any Ajax or PSV fans in Holland as pen pals and exchange football programmes. 105 Folkes One Street, Bradford 3, Yorkshire. Tel: Bradford 661035.

WANTED. The first issue of the West German Kicker extra "Fussball-Magazin" (dated September/October, 1976 with Rainer Bonhof on the cover). Must be in at least very good to excellent condition. Please state condition and price wanted to: Tim Brulia, RD1 Box 110A, Elliottsburg, PA 17024, USA.

WANTED, programmes of World Cup Final series, matches, any year. Please state prices. Paul Gilsenan, 29 Oliver Plunkett Park, Dundalk, Co Louth, Eire.

WANTED: pictures, posters (8mm movies only of FC Köln) and etc, on W. Germany and FC Köln especially. Please state condition and price. Miss Ida-Shahnaz ıri, First Grade No. 23, Bimeh Iran Ave., Yosef Abad, Tehr ın, Iran.

WANTED: Magazines, British or foreign, referring to the 1978 World Cup and World Soccer's, January to June, 1978. Will give good prices and will pay for postage and packing. Please contact: Robert Bannerman, Monadail, Portpatrick, Nr Stranraer, DG19 8JS, Scotland.

I READ your "Worls Soccer" and I see that you have pen pals. I would like to correspond with any man and to exchange badges with him. Nicolas Milkovski, Str Pozitano Ila, 1303 Sufia, Bulgaria.

KEMPES FEELS THE PRESSURE

MARIO KEMPES has been weighed down this season — by the incessant pressure to reproduce this World Cup form, by the demands of the fans to maintain his scoring record of the past two years and by the upsetting atmosphere inside Valencia.

He returned home to Argentina at the start of April for a brief holiday while Spain were playing in Rumania, coming back to find a new manager in caretaker Pasieguito.

Have you been disappointed in your results this season?

"We haven't achieved anything like what we'd hoped. But we might still squeeze into the UEFA Cup."

Are you very tired now?

"Well, it's true there have been a lot of games for my legs to get through, but after all I'm a professional — that's what I'm paid for."

How many games did you play last season?

"Every one."

Then the World Cup . . .

"Yes, that was seven more, plus all our club friendlies."

And this season?

"All except two. I missed the first game against Real Madrid because of injury and I missed the game against Atletico Madrid because of suspension through too many yellow cards."

Are you surprised by the goals Krankl has scored?

"No, I saw him in Argentina and thought he would do well then. I said so when I thought he had joined Valencia, too. The fact that he went to Barcelona in the end made no difference to my opinion."

Rexach scores from the penalty spot for Barcelona against FC Beveren in the Cup Winners' Cup series, June 1.

Real — almost there

REAL MADRID are on course for their fourth league title in five years, despite an appalling run of injuries (writes KEIR RADNEDGE).

Despite injuries of more or less serious consequences to San José, Stielike, Pirri, Jensen, del Bosque and Miguel Angel they are — as I write — two points ahead of Gijon with three games to go.

It all hinged on Madrid's visit to their provincial challengers, who have surprised so many people this season with their skilful direct approach.

It wasn't a great match, there was too much pressure, too much tension. Gijon had their noses in front because of goal difference, but it wasn't enough after Carlos Santillana dived in on the near post for the header which provided Madrid's 65th-minute winner.

Gijon, coached by ex-Madrid defender Vicente Miera, couldn't have had a tougher task the following week as they faced the problem of making up the leeway.

While Madrid were home to neighbours Atletico, so Miera's men were away to Barcelona.

Gijon's fans were confident because of the upheavals then under way in the Ciudad Condal. Barcelona, though moving towards the Cup Winners' final, had just been thrashed 4-0 by Valencia in midweek in the Spanish Cup.

It was a startling result, because Barcelona had won the first leg 4-1 and had been confident of a quarter-final place. Instead they left Valencia raging about the hostility of the Mestalla crowd and the refereeing, since two of Valencia's goals came from Rainer Bonhof penalties.

Barcelona's 5-4 aggregate elimination promoted an immediate reaction, with the replacement of coach Lucien Müller.

As I wrote last month, Müller had appeared likely to see out his one-year contract as far as the Cup Winners' final. But the Valencia turnabout demanded a hasty response from president José Luis Nunez, and the following morning Müller was presented with an ultimatum: prepare to step up next season as general manager or get out.

Müller, disappointed but philosophical, refused to take the easy way out, the comfortable sinecure offered, and told Nunez that if he wasn't wanted as coach then he should be fired.

Which was what happened.

Team coaching duties were assigned to Müller's former Barcelona team-mates and later aides Joaquin Rife and Antonio Torres.

These troubles were the main reason Gijon fans went to Nou Camp hopeful that Quini and Co might produce a shock. But they were the ones in for the shock, for Barcelona won 6-0 — Hans Krankl hit a hat-trick — and Gijon had no answer.

Miera admitted afterwards: "I was afraid something like this would happen. After all the troubles at Barcelona someone was bound to be on the wrong end of it when they sorted themselves out. That someone happened to be us."

Madrid's lead had stretched now to three points, for they had drawn 1-1 at home to Atletico in a bad-tempered game which saw 11 bookings and the expulsion of Atletico midfielder Bermejo. Funnily enough Atletico were still behind to Santillana's 28th-minute goal when Bermejo left in the 58th minute. But only three minutes after his departure Ruben Cano grabbed the equaliser.

That draw left Madrid on 39 points, Gijon on 36, Las Palmas on 34, Atletico on 33 and Barcelona and Real Sociedad each on 31. It all means that Barcelona, who have played more games in European competition than any other team — Real Madrid included — were in danger of missing the guarantee of a European place for next season.

Allan Simonsen is confirmed as a £450,000 arrival from Borussia Moenchengladbach next season, though the telephone lines to Spain were busy before the 1977 European Footballer of the Year agreed to go to Barcelona. First he took comprehensive advice on playing in Spain from ex-Borussia team-mates Bonhof and Henning Jensen.

In fact Barcelona nearly called off the deal because of a mysterious rumour that Simonsen was three years older than his real 27!

But there is certainly a place for a new foreigner now Johan Neeskens has signed a five-year contract with New York Cosmos.

The Neeskens case is extremely sad. He joined Barcelona from Ajax in 1974, after the World Cup — a newly-wed starting out on the most promising new chapter of his life.

But not once has Neeskens won the league title and only last year the Spanish Cup, the first season in which foreigners were allowed to appear in the competition.

Now he finds himself parting from his wife Marianne, who prefers the company of a local

Krankl blow

MORE bad news for Barcelona. Austrian World Cup centre forward Hans Krankl, top scorer in the league so far with 29 goals, was sent off after a scuffle with his marker Pavon in the 2-1 derby win over Espanol. Then, on the way home, Krankl's car — driven by a friend — crashed. Krankl escaped with bruising, but his wife Inge suffered serious injuries which needed extensive and speedy hospital treatment.

Defender Carrascosa, former Argentina national team captain who withdrew for family reasons three months before last year's World Cup, continues to shine for first division Huracan. He says he will not shave off his beard until Huracan qualify for the league semi-finals . . . which is unlikely to happen this season.

photographer, unwanted by his club, and up to his eyes in a financial controversy regarding the whereabouts of more than £2 million earned by himself and Johan Cruyff during their contracts with Barcelona.

Accusation and counter-allegation have surged back and forth between the Dutchmen's Barcelona-based business partner Michel Basilevitch and Cruyff's father-in-law Cor Coster about arrangements for moving much of their earnings to Switzerland.

Whatever the truth of the matter — and Neeskens's confidence in Basilevitch obviously remains intact since he was present at the signing for Cosmos — there is no doubt that the Dutchmen have not come out anything like as financially secure as they should have done from their lucrative spells in Spain.

That, plus the threats of Neeskens's wife to demand half his earnings in settlement for a divorce, make it sadly plain why a move to New York was the only answer to his financial anxieties. But at only 27 he clearly had much to offer Dutch, European and world football. Now, with Cosmos, he may have quite a lot to offer US football in terms of crowd-pulling potential but it's arguable whether artificial turf will suit his style or whether he'll find much job satisfaction cut off from his roots.

At least while Neeskens is on his way out, Bonhof is slowly finding his feet. Before the return against Barcelona in the Cup he told president José Ramos Costa that he was confident they could overturn the 4-1 first-leg defeat.

"If we do that and you get a goal I'll buy you the most expensive watch in town as a special bonus," replied Ramos Costa, who was as good as his word. Two days after the 4-0 return Bonhof found himself the proud recipient of £2,500-worth of wrist watch!

From that it's clear that Valencia are still ready to spend, spend, spend in their search for success. Speculation continues about a successor to sacked Marcel Domingo. The longer Valencia wait the more clubs there will be in contention for the available managerial talent.

GOALS AND MARADONA

From Eric Weil

WITH leading clubs Boca Juniors, the Libertadores Cup holders, and River Plate still well below their 1978 form, modest Argentinos Juniors and still undefeated Rosario Central are hitting the headlines in the shortened Argentine Metropolitan First Division which has almost reached the half-way stage . . . with plenty of goals at an average of 3.1 per game.

Argentinos Juniors lead Section A by two points from joint second Newell's Old Boys and Racing Club, led by their brilliant midfielders Maradona, who is also the championship top scorer with seven goals in as many games. He says it isn't fair on his team mates that the talk is only of him every time Argentinos wins, but in the last match before press-time he played in spite of not being fully fit, was marked out of the game by Quilmes' Moralejo and Argentinos lost 3-0. So their position at the top is precarious, depending as it does, mostly on one man. Yet the good thing for the game is that this team, without any other outstanding players, has got this far by playing good soccer and waiting for the results to come under Brazilian coach Delem, a former River Plate player and coach who will accept nothing else.

Rosario Central lead Section B by three points as the only unbeaten team with 13 out of 14 points and most goals scored (19). Central, under new coach Angel Zoff, also opt for good soccer, going for goals all the time, whether playing at home or away and showing excellent team work without depending on any star . . . and Zoff says they haven't reached their peak yet.

Meanwhile, River Plate and Boca Juniors are only just above the 50 per cent mark. Boca, with a much-changed team from last season, still haven't quite hit it off, but remain handily placed for a semi-final place two points behind second-placed FC Oeste in Section B. Yet their league form may suffer over the next few weeks when they start play in the semi-final round of the Libertadores Cup to defend the title they have won for the last two years.

With River Plate it's another story. After a good start — at least as far as results are concerned — which kept them at the top of Section A for the first five matches, they crashed 3-1 to Argentinos Juniors — they couldn't stop Maradona (who scored two) either — and bowed to the fact that they had 11 of their 26 professionals either suspended or injured. Internal problems also took their toll as many of their leading players were still going through tedious negotiations over terms for their yet unsigned contracts.

In the case of goalkeeper Fillol, one of their five World Cup players, he would not turn up for training or games unless River Plate accepted his terms — a 200,000 dollars signing-on fee and 20,000 dollars a month. Finally, after two suspensions by the club, totalling a month, he returned to play and accepted the club's signing-on fee of 85,000 dollars and 5,000 dollars a month.

The big news came outside the First Division, however. Cordoba club Talleres — close to winning the national championship for the last two years, but playing in the Cordoba provincial league — who already have most players (five) in the current national team squad of 23, seem to want a World Cup team. At press-time they bought defender Alberto Tarantini from Birmingham City for around 450,000 dollars and were willing to hand out around 700,000 dollars to Spain's Sevilla for forward Daniel Bertoni to join their former Argentine World Cup team mates Luis Galvan (defence), Daniel Valencia and Miguel Oviedo (midfield) in the Cordoba team.

Peru: NEW SET-UP

A new set-up in Peru this season will pit together the eight top teams and eight bottom teams after the regular championship is over — one group to decide the title and the other relegation. But the novelty is that the team finishing first in the regular championship will start the final round with three bonus points, the runner-up with two and the third with one, while in the relegation round the bottom team starts with minus three points, the next to bottom with minus two and the third from bottom with minus one.

Alianza Lima, champions for the last two years, started well with an 8-0 win against Colegio Nacional Iquitos and postponed their next two games while participating in the Libertadores Cup. Alianza are this season without World Cup stars Teofilo Cubillas and Hugo Sotil who have been transferred to the United States and Colombia respectively.

After three matches, Sporting Cristal (lining-up mostly World Cup men), Deportivo Junin and Leon de Huanuco (with a game less) jointly top the table.

from
ERIC WEIL

Guarani i of attacki

THE Libertadores Cup's 60 first round matches in five groups produced a welcome upsurge in goals, an exciting newcomer to the semi-finals — Brazilian champions, Guarani, who are also playing in the Cup for the first time — but perhaps the ugliest scenes ever in the turbulent history of the competition which resulted in the group 2 encounter between Bolivia's Wilsterman and Paraguay's Olimpia, in Cochabamba, being suspended 20 minutes before the end.

Continual friction between players of both teams and objects thrown by spectators — one of which injured Brazilian referee Jose Wright who had to momentarily suspend the match — created a hostile climate even in the first half which became worse when the referee sent off two Bolivian players five minutes after the re-start and a third soon after. The match was then suspended for the second time when the referee protested that it was not safe to continue. His biggest mistake was to allow himself to be convinced by home club officials to carry on when he had already lost control of the match and then sent off a fourth Wilsterman player with 20 minutes to go.

The police force of 150 at the stadium was not enough to stop the furious spectators from breaking down the barriers and invading the field to attack the Paraguayan players and the referee. The result was seven injured Olimpia players — four seriously — while the referee received a black eye and kick marks all over and said he doesn't know how he escaped alive. He said later that he raced out of the stadium — with furious fans in hot pursuit — just as a taxi was passing which he took to get to the nearest police station. Yet three days later he courageously acted as linesman in the match between Bolivian champions, Bolivar, and Olimpia — weakened by the absence of four injured players — in La Paz. (Olimpia, who were awarded the suspended match, in which they were leading 2-0, lost 2-1 to Bolivar).

Standing left to right: Passarella, Houseman, Olguin, Villaverde, Garcia, Fillol. Front: Gallego, Barbas, Reinaldi, Maradona, Ortiz.

The upsurge of goals — 191 at an average of 3.2 per game — seems to indicate a return of more attacking soccer throughout South America following Argentina's World Cup win with attack last year. There were also fewer uneventful draws (27) as many teams decided to forsake the old method of playing for an away point.

Such a team were Guarani who, though they are Brazilian champions, still caused a surprise in their first appearance in the tournament by getting past the more experienced Brazilian vice-champions, Palmeiras, and Peru's champions Alianza Lima (lining up many World Cup players) and Universitario in group 3. Guarani's average age is only 22 and their coach, Carlos Alberto Silva, is barely six years above it. But they show outstanding fitness — not so usual for a Brazilian team — speed and fighting spirit as well as a goal hunger which brought them 16 in six matches (seven in three away games) against tough opposition mostly through Zenon (5), Milton (4) and Bozo (3) who seem to be ready-made for Brazil's future national team.

The other clubs in the six-team semi-final round — in two groups from which the group

from
CLAUDIO KUCK

The NEW Br

AFTER much gossip Claudio Coutinho finally named a new Brazilian team for a friendly with Paraguay and other matches in Maracana. There were no surprises and of the 11 players that World Soccer anticipated in the April edition, only Serginho is not in.

The first Brazilian side formed after the World Cup is based on Flamengo, the club of Claudio Coutinho. He left out the players of Guarani (Zenon, Careca and Renato) because they are involved in the Libertadores da America Cup. Without any doubt the strength of the new Brazilian squad is in the midfield with Carpeggiani, Falcao and Zico.

Carpeggiani couldn't play in Argentina because he was injured, but now he is in good shape and playing superbly. Recently he was chosen the "Player of the Year." Falcao had an argument with Coutinho during the World Cup qualifying tournament in Colombia and was left out. He is an outstanding player and everybody in Brazil thinks that the 1978 World Cup story could be a different one if Falcao had been there.

Zico had a terrible time in and after Argentina, but he is a confident player again, scoring and willing to show the world that maybe he isn't a "White Pelé", but that he knows everything about football.

New names are Junior, Nilton Batata, Socrates and Eder. Junior is a good left-back in Flamengo, but nobody is sure if he can fit well in the Brazilian team.

Of course he doesn't have the skill and power of the blond Marinho, who is now playing for New York Cosmos. Nilton Batata is the best player of the new Santos and is a real right winger.

But it is in the left side of the attack that the Brazilians are waiting for great things to happen. Finally Eder was given a chance to prove that he can repeat in the Brazilian team, the football he has been shown in Gremio (Porto Alegre).

The left winger didn't go to Argentina because Coutinho was afraid of his bad fame and even the former Eder's coach in Gremio Tele Santana, advised Coutinho not to call him up.

Socrates is for some years one of the best Brazilian forwards, but he was playing before in the little Botafogo de Ribeirao Preto and was only a part-time footballer, divided between soccer and his medical course.

Now he signed a good contract with the powerful Corinthians and is only playing football. Coutinho will have an extra option too. Palhinha will be in the bench as a substitute and the coach can call him up at anytime and ask them to repeat for Brazil, the goals that they are scoring for Corinthians.

Nothing new about the other players; goalkeeper Leao, the defenders Toninho, Oscar and Amaral. The new side is:

Leao (Vasco), Toninho (Flamengo) Oscar (Ponte Creta), Amaral (Corinthians), Junior (Flamengo, Carpeggiani (Flamengo), Falcao (Internacional), Zico (Flamengo),

n upsurge ng football

winner goes into the final — are all veterans in the competition.

With Guarani in group one are Chilean champions Palestine (one of two unbeaten teams in the first round who actually ended with the best goals record of 16-2 (from four wins two draws), but faced the weak Venezuelan teams, and Olimpia who have played in the tournament 13 out of the 20 times it has been held since it began in 1960.

Semi-final group two is composed of Independiente (Argentine), who have won the tournament a record six times, Boca Juniors (Argentina), champions for the last two seasons who thus had a bye until this stage, and Uruguayan champions Peñarol, also unbeaten in the first round (four wins, two draws) who have played in the Cup every year except 1964 and won it three times.

Further first round highlights, following on to games already commented on in last month's WORLD SOCCER, were as follows:

● GROUP ONE: 2-0 victories by Independiente (Argentina) and Deportivo Cali (Colombia) against compatriots Quilmes and Millionarios respectively — which at least in the case of Independiente could have been bigger had they played well — virtually left it to the two winners and when they met at Independiente's stadium in the next match, it all but settled the issue. A six-minute goal by winger Barberón settled it for the Argentine team which failed to make use of its early lead and build on it with yet another indifferent performance.

In fact group winners Independiente only played well in the second half of their last match at home versus Millionarios when they were helped by another early goal within two minutes and then settled down to overrun the Colombian team 4-1 in the second half, secure in the knowledge that they were safe as only rivals, Deportivo Cali, were losing (3-1) to Quilmes at the same time. Alzamendi (5) and Outes (4) had scored most of Independiente's goals. They won none of their previous matches easily, nor had they shown the form expected of them.

● GROUP TWO: Bolivia's champions, Bolivar, were actually leading scorers in the first round with 18 goals, but they also had local rivals Wilsterman, with the worst defence (21 goals) in the same group and they beat them 4-0 and 6-0. Against Paraguay's Sol de America, Bolivar also won easily 4-1 at home and drew 2-2 away and they appeared to have done enough by also beating Olimpia 2-1 at home — albeit following the latter's harassing experience three days earlier in Cochabamba and without four players who were injured there. On top of that, it was another rough match — not unexpectedly as the Paraguayans wanted to get their own back and two of them were sent off, one already in the first half.

This was Olimpia's only defeat and their two performances in Bolivia — under extreme stress — stamped them as champion material. They showed they were the much better team in the last match in Asunción where they beat Bolivar 3-0 to overtake them by a point at the top of the table.

● GROUP THREE: While Brazil's Guarani were an agreeable surprise in this group, Peru's Alianza Lima, lining up several World Cup players, were a sad disappointment. Alianza became the only team to complete their six-match first round programme without a single point. Two of their World Cup men — Cubillas and Sotil — had by then been tranferred to the United States and Colombia respectively.

Argentina captain Passarella.

Universitario, Peru's vice-champions, sent Alianza to their fourth defeat (and out of contention) with a 1-0 win and a much disputed goal three minutes from the end, but that was the closest Alianza ever got to gaining a point. Universitario stayed at the top of the table most of the way, including an excellent 2-1 victory over Palmeiras in Brazil which might have got them through to the semi-finals from any other group.

But there was no stopping Guarani who, after going down to their only defeat (3-0) to Universitario in Lima earlier, completed their campaign with a sensational 4-1 win over Palmeiras, an easy 2-0 romp with two first half goals against Alianza at home and a 6-1 thrashing (at home) of Universitario with Zenon scoring three and which might have been bigger but for Acassuso's good goalkeeping and the referee annulling two goals. Midfielder Zenon again scored the second half goal for the 1-0 win over Palmeiras in the last match.

At this stage Palmeiras would have needed a 3-0 win to qualify, but they were never in the hunt and their efforts to stop Guarani with rough play resulted in midfielder Ivo being sent off for a violent foul on Zenon 10 minutes before half-time. For Brazil's notoriously partial sports press the elimination of Palmeiras, one of the country's most popular clubs, seemed to be a crime and they dedicated most of the available space to mentioning Palmeiras' faults rather than extolling the virtues of Guarani's success.

azilian team

Nilton Batata (Santos), Socrates (Corinthians), Eder (Gremio).

As substitutes Coutinho called up Carlos (Ponte Preta's goalkeeper), Edinho (Fluminense), Marco Antonio (Vasco), Toninho Cerezzo (Atletico), Palhinha (Corinthians).

It's not by chance that there are so many Flamengo players in the new Brazilian side. They are still playing very well and just won again the Rio de Janeiro championship. Flamengo draw with Fluminense 1-1 and with Botafogo 2-2 in the last matches, being the first carioca club since Maracana stadium was built in 1950, to win the championship unbeaten.

The new Guanabara Cup just started with 18 clubs and the three first results were: Vasco-Olaria 2-0; Botafogo-Madureira 4-1 and Flumenense-Sao Cristovao 8-1!

In Sao Paulo the Championship is still confused. The rules are very complicated and the second part wasn't decided yet because Guarani is playing in the Libertadores Cup and the final against Ponte Preta was postponed.

The interesting thing is that both clubs in the final, Guarani and Ponte Preta are from the small town of Campinas. But the third part of the Championship started even though the second one is still undecided.

Ten teams are taking part: Botafago de Ribeirao Preto, Corinthians, Santos, Sao Paulo, Palmeiras, Portuguesa, Ponte Preta, Juventus, Guarani and Francana. They were chosen under a confuse criterion of points, goals, receipts, performances, etc.

News

● Admildo Chirol lost his job as Fluminense's coach and was replaced by Jose Duarte, ex-Cruzeiro and ex-Guarani.

● Botafogo signed Ziza (left winger) from Atletico Minero for 3 million cruzeiros (60,000 pounds).

● Reinaldo scored his first goal for Atletico after the new knee operation, in a friendly against Santos. But Atletico lost 2-1.

RIO DE JANEIRO CHAMPIONSHIP

VASCO DA GAMA 0
FLUMINENSE 0
Maracana Stadium
Attendance: 13,069
Referee: Luis Carlos Felix
Yellow cards: Tadeu and Zé Maria (Fluminense)

Vasco: Leao / Orlando — Abel — Gaucho and Marco Antonio/Helinho — Guina and Carlos Alberto Garcia/Dudu — Roberto and Osnir (Ramon).

Fluminense: Renato/Edevaldo — Dario — Tadeu and Zé Maria/Carlos Roberto — Pintinho and Mario/Fumanchu (Chiquinho) — Nunes (Robertinho) and Zezé.

FLAMENGO 2
BOTAFOGO 2
(Flamengo won the Championship-
Maracana Stadium
Attendance: 158,477
Goal: Zico (Flamengo) after 32 minutes; Gil (Botafogo) after 39 minutes; Zico after 45 minutes and Luisinho Lemos (Botafogo) after 52 minutes.
Referee: Valquir Pimentel
Yellow cards: Perivaldo and Luisinho Lemos (Botafogo); Toninho (Flamengo).

Flamengo: Cantarele/Toninho — Pondinelli — Nelson and Junior/Carpeggiani (Andrade) — Adilio and Tita/Reinaldo — Luisinho (Claudio Adao) and Zico.

Botafogo: Luis Carlos/Perivaldo — Osmar — Rene and China/Wecsley — Chiquinho and Renato Sa/Gil (Dé) — Luisinho Lemos and Clóvis.

Bettaga of Juventus

Milan clinch tenth title

ITALY
by Keir Radnedge

HECTIC, dramatic, stunning — all words used many times over already to describe the end-of-season climax in the Italian league which meant:

★ *Milan's first championship in 11 years;*
★ *Perugia became the first time ever to go through the season unbeaten;*
★ *Bologna escaped their first-ever spell in the second division on goal difference;*
★ *Paolo Rossi's Lanerossi Vicenza, second last season, were relegated.*

To take all those points in order, let's make a start with Milan, whose 10th championship entitles them to join Juventus and Internazionale as teams permitted to wear a gold star on their jerseys for taking their title tally into double figures.

Above all it was a great triumph for Gianni Rivera, now 35, who returned for the final run-in after his team-mates had already done the earlier hard work, starting with a vital 1-1 draw away to nearest challengers Perugia.

Two penalties brought all the scoring — Stefano Chiodi after 15 minutes for Milan, Gianfranco Casarsa two minutes later for Perugia. It was a vital point lost by Perugia and gained by Milan, who followed up by winning 3-0 away to Torino the following weekend despite a crowd riot which extended half-time to 25 minutes.

The reasons for the riot was Torino fans' protests at the penalty which brought Alberto Bigon one of his two goals. All this brought however was a one-game ban on Torino from playing at home.

At this stage Milan had 38 points, Perugia 36, Inter 34 — Inter having beaten outgoing champions Juventus 2-1 that same afternoon.

There remained four games to play and Milan stretched their lead when, with Perugia held at Catanzaro, they beat Verona 2-1 in the game which marked Rivera's return. In fact it was relegation-bound Verona who scored first, through Egidio Calloni in the 24th minute — an ironic goal since Calloni is on loan from . . . Milan!

Rivera snatched the equaliser just after the interval and Walter Novellino hit a late winner.

Verona still had a part to play. The following week they took a point off Perugia and with Milan winning 3-1 at Catanzaro — Rivera created all three — Nils Liedholm's team were now four points clear with two games to go.

The penultimate games were intriguing, for while Perugia had the comparatively simple task of a home game against Lazio — which they duly won 2-0 — Milan were hosts to Bologna, battling for all they were worth to claw their way out of the relegation zone.

The eventual 0-0 draw suited both teams and thousands of Milan fans stormed the barricades both before and after the game to celebrate victory — a championship triumph assured, most appropriately, on the day of Rivera's 500th league appearance for the club he virtually owns.

It was a milestone too for Liedholm. As a player he won the championship four times with Milan, but this was his first success as a coach, prompting Milan to offer him a £90,000 contract to stay on for another year despite rumours that he may return home to coach Sweden towards the 1982 World Cup.

Not that Liedholm needs the money. His years in *Calcio*, as a long-serving player with Milan then as coach with Verona, Fiorentina, Roma and again Milan, have brought him the security of a luxury villa filled with valuable paintings, a farm and vineyards.

Now 56, he had often been accused of being too much of a gentleman to succeed as a manager.

But Liedholm explained his approach: "I aimed to consider my players as adults who should know how to behave, how to conduct themselves, both on and off the pitch, without my having to impose strict limitations — just as we did at Milan when I played alongside Gren and Nordahl in the early 1950s.

"When I was at Roma it just didn't work. Perhaps it was the *ambience* there. But it's worked well here!"

Milan's balance, however, despite young stars such as Franco Baresi and Walter De Vecchi leans very heavily towards the experience of verterans such as Rivera, Bigon and goalkeeper Enrico Albertosi.

It was that experience which proved so important during the run-in when Perugia dropped silly points through nerves.

Under-21 star Salvatore Bagni was the one who cracked the most, because of trouble over his domestic life. His mother virtually threw him out of the house because she didn't approve of Bagni's beautiful girl-friend.

After the draw with Milan Bagni left the pitch in tears. But in fact he should have been grateful to have been able to play. The previous week he had been suspended because of an accumulation of yellow cards, but then mysteriously cleared because referee Alberto Michelotti, a senior FIFA man, somehow discovered he had inadvertently booked the wrong man.

But though Milan were home and dry with a game to go, Perugia still had much to play for in the last game — their historic unbeaten record. And that last game was home to Bologna, who needed to win to have any hope of avoiding the drop!

In the event Bologna, once 2-0 down, hit back to draw 2-2 as Perugia reshuffled after two-goal Bagni had been carried off. That point was just enough. With relegation rivals Atalanta winning 2-0 at home to Lanerossi, both finished level on points with Bologna, yet went down on goal difference!

And that must mean a transfer now for Paolo Rossi as Lanerossi begin the struggle to repeat their promotion season of two years ago.

Paulo Barison

ONE more car crash victim — it was nearly two — has stunned *Calcio*.

The victim this time was Paolo Barison, 42, former Milan outside left and Torino aide, who was killed when the car in which he was travelling was crushed beneath a car transporter which veered across the autostrada between Ventimiglia and Savona.

Thrown out of the car and badly hurt was Barison's old friend, Gigi Radice, trainer of Torino.

In fact Radice's state was so precarious it was more than a week before he was told of the death of his friend for fear that the news would cause a fatal relapse.

"There's a cruel hand of fate on this club of ours," said president Orfeo Pianelli when he learned of the news.

Barison played 292 first division games, scoring 83 goals, between 1957 and 1970 for Genoa, Milan, Roma, Napoli and Sampdoria. He also played three times for Italy, but it is for his goals in Milan's run to the 1963 Champions' Cup Final that he will be best remembered.

He did not win a medal however. Coach Nereo Rocco left him out for the 2-1 win over Benfica, preferring to use Gino Pivatelli in his place to sit on the Portuguese general, Mario Coluna, in midfield.

It was while with Milan that Barison and Radice became friends. But football was not always kind to him. His marriage ended because of his wife's friendship with Milan and later Napoli team-mate Jose Altafini.

At the time of writing it's not clear how long it will be before Radice is able to return to his duties with Torino. Assistant Mirko Ferretti stepped up for the last few games of the season.

CLASSIFIED RESULTS

LIBERTADORES CUP
(South American Club Championship)
Group 1

March 14

MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (0) 1 (Irigoyen)
DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (1) 1 (Torres)

Millionarios: Lopez, Segovia, Rodriguez, Gonzalez, Carillo, Amadeo, Hernandez (Cordero), Carra, Morón, Irigoyen, Promanzio.

Deportivo Cali: Zape, Correa, Escobar, Martinez, Montufar, Umaña, Landucci, Otero, Benitez, N. Scotta, Torres.

QUILMES (Argentina) (0) 1 (Batalla)
INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 2 (Larrosa, Outes)

Quilmes: Palacios, Moralejo, Milozzi, Fanesi, Medina, Bianchini, Gaspari, Salinas (Batalla), Godoy (Filardo), Andreucci, Milano.

Independiente: Baley, Pagnanini, Villaverde, Trossero, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan, Bochini (Blondi), Alzamendi, Outes, Magallanes (Zimmermann).

March 20

MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (1) 3 (Irigoyen, Moron, Carra)
INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 3 (Alzamendi 2, Barberón)

Millionarios: Lopez, Segovia, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Carillo (Alonso Lopez), Cordero, Amado, Carra, Ortiz, Irigoyen, Moron.

Independiente: Baley, Pagnanini, Zimmermann, Trossero, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan, Bochini (Leone), Alzamendi, Outes, Magallanes (Barberó).

DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (1) 3 (Torres, Scotta, Alvarez)
QUILMES (Argentina) (1) 2 (Milozzi, Graneros)

Dep. Cali: Zape, Montufar (Castro), Martinez, Escobar, Correa, Otero, Landucci (Alvarez), Umaña, Torres, Scotta, Benitez.

Quilmes: Palacios, Moralejo, Milozzi, Fanesi, Medina, Bianchini, Gaspari, Salinas, Godoy, Graneros (Recavarren), Mas (Milano).

March 23

DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (1) 1 (Scotta)
INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) 0

Dep. Cali: Zapa, Montafur, Martinez, Escobar, Castro, Otero (Valverde), Landucci (Alvarez), Umaña, Torres, Scotta, Benitez.

Independiente: Baley (Pogany), Pagnanini, Zimmermann, Trossero, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan (Leone), Bochini, Alzamendi, Outes, Barberon.

MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (0) 1 (Cordero pen.)
QUILMES (Argentina) 0

Millionarios: L. Lopez, Segovia, Rodriquez, A. Lopez, Amado (Ortega), Carra (Promancio), Cordero, Ortiz, Irigoyen, Moron, Peremateu.

Quilmes: Palacios, Zarate, Recavarren, Fanesi, Moralejo, Bianchini, Gaspari, Salinas (Batalla), Godoy, Graneros, Mas (Milano).

April 4

INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 2 (Alzamendi, Outes)
QUILMES (Argentina) (0) 0

Independiente: Baley, Lencina, Pagnanini, Zimmermann, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan, Blondi (Fontana), Alzamendi, Outes, Barberón (Magallanes).

Quilmes: Palacios, Zarate, Milozzi, Fanesi, Moralejo, Bianchini, Gaspari, Salinas, Godoy (Batalla), Filardo, Mas (Milano).

DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (0) 2 (Benitez, Umana)
MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (0) 0

Dep. Cali: Zape, Valverde, Escobar, Montafur, Castro, Otero, Landucci (Alvarez), Umana, Torres, Scotta, Benitez.

Millionarios: Lopez, Segovia, Gonzalez, Peremateu, Carrillo, Carra, Amado, Cordero, Ortiz, Irigoyen, Moron (Promancio).

ERRATA

IN the Euro-history feature concerning the Mitropa Cup in the May issue of 'World Soccer' the results for the 1939 competition, as given on page 47, should have read:

First round: **Venus Buch-Bologna 1-0 0-5 — Ferencvaros-Sparta 2-3 2-0 — Beogradski-Slavia 3-0 1-2 — Ambrosiana-Ujpest 2-1 0-3.** ***Semi-finals:*** **Bologna-Ferencvaros 3-1 1-4 — Beogradski-Ujpest 4-2 1-7.** ***Final:*** **Ujpest-Ferencvaros 4-1 2-2.**

April 10

INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 1 (Barberón)
DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (0) 0

Independiente: Baley, Lencina, Villaverde, Trossero, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan, Blondi, Alzamendi, Outes, Barberon.

Dep. Cali: Zape, Valverde (Castro), Montufar, Escobar, Correa, Otero, Landucci (Alvarez), Umaña, Torres, Scotta, Benitez.

QUILMES (Argentina) (0) 1 (Paruzzo)
MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (1) 2 (Irigoyen, Ortiz)

Quilmes: Palacios, Moralejo (Carrizo), Milozzi, Fanessi, Medina, Bianchini (Milano), Gasparl, Batalla, Godoy, Paruzzo, Mas.

Millionarios: Lopez, Segovia, Gonzalez, Peremateu, Ortega, Amado, Carra, Cordero (Promancio), Ortiz, Irigoyen, Morón (Hernandez).

April 13

INDEPENDIENTE (Argentina) (1) 4 (Alzamendi 2, Outes 2)
MILLIONARIOS (Colombia) (0) 1 (Irigoyen)

Independiente: Baley, Lencina, Villaverde, Trossero, Perez, Larrosa, Galvan, Bochini, Alzamendi, Outes, Barberón.

Millionarios: Lopez, Segovia, Rodriguez (Carra), Peremateu, Ortega, Gonzalez, Amado, Cordero, Ortiz, Irigoyen, Hernandez (Promancio).

QUILMES (Argentina) (2) 3 (Andreucci, Bianchini 2)
DEPORTIVO CALI (Colombia) (0) 1 (Otero)

Quilmes: Palacios, Moralejo, Milozzi, Fanesi, Burgeois, Bianchini, Gaspari, Salinas, Graneros, Andreucci (Batalla), Milano.

Dep. Cali: Zape, Correa, Montufar, Escobar, Castro, Otero, Landucci, Umana, Torres (Ruiz Moreno), Scotta, Bentiez.

Group 1 — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
INDEPENDIENTE (Arg)	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
Deportivo Cali (Colombia)	6	3	1	2	8	7	7
Millionarios (Columbia)	6	2	2	2	8	11	6
Quilmes (Argentina)	6	1	–	5	7	11	2

Group 2

March 23

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) 1
SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) 0

March 25

BOLIVAR (Bolivia) (1) 4 (Espinola, Reynaldo 2, Gallo)
WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) (0) 0

Bolivar: Jimenez, Gallo, Palacios, Troncone, Vargas, Borja, Cespedes, Aragones, Espinola, Reynaldo, Aguilar, (Changes: Gongora for Cespedes, Tamaya Jimenez for Espinola).

Wilsterman: Issa, Arias, Roa, Bengolea, Torrico, Vallaroel, Navarro, Gonzalez, Del Llano, Cabrera (Toninho), Da Costa (Troiano).

March 29

BOLIVAR (Bolivia) (2) 4 (Aguilar, Aragones, T. Jimenez, Reynaldo)
SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) (1) 1 (Cañete)

Bolivar: Jimenez, Palacios, Troncone, Vargas, Borja, Gongora, Cespedes, Aragones, T. Jimenez, Reynaldo, Aguilar.

Sol de America: Bernal, Torres, Farina, Romero, Espinola, Rivera, Miño, Cañete, Acosta, Salinas (Perez), Benitez (Farias).

WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) (0) 0
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (1) 2 (Talavera, Issassi)
Susp. 78 mins.

Wilsterman: Issa, Llano, Bengolea (sent off), Navarro (sent off), Torricon, Arias, Villarroel, Gonzalez, Sanchez (sent off), Toninho, Heraldo.

Olimpia: Almeida, Giudice, Paredes, Sosa, Piazza, Talavera, Kiesse, Torres, Aquino, Villalba (sent off), Issasi.

April 1

BOLIVAR (Bolivia) (1) 2 (Aguila, Espinola)
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (1) 1 (Kiesse)
WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 2
SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) 3

April 5

WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 0
BOLIVAR (Bolivia) 6
SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) 0
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) 1

April 8

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (3) 4 (Issasi 2, Villalba 2)
WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) (0) 2 (Cabrera 2)

Olimpia: Almeida, Solalinde, Paredes, Sosa, Guidice, Torres, Kiesse, Aquino, Issasi, Diaz, Villalba.

Wilsterman: Issa, Arias, Rosa, Bengolea, Torrico, Del Llano, Navarro, Gonzalez, Sanchez, Cabrera, Gracedo.

April 11

SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) 2
WILSTERMAN (Bolivia) 1

April 15

SOL DE AMERICA (Paraguay) 2
BOLIVAR (Bolivia) 2

April 18

OLIMPIA (Paraguay) (2) 3 (Villalba, Issasi 2)
BOLIVAR (Bolivia) 0

Olimpia: Almeida, Solalinde, Paredes, Sosa, Piazza, Torres, Kiesse, Talavera, Issasi, Villalba, Aquino.

Bolivar: Jimeenz, Fierro, Caceres, Troncone, Valdivieso, Gallo, Palacios, Aragones, Borja, Reynaldo, Arguilar.

Group 2 — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLIMPIA (Paraguay)	6	5	0	1	13	5	10
Bolivar (Bolivia)	6	4	1	1	18	7	9
Sol de America (Paraguay)	6	2	1	3	9	12	5
Wilsterman (Bolivia)	6	0	0	6	5	21	0

Group 3

February 24

ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) (1) 3 (Cueto, Illescas, La Rosa)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (2) 6 (Adriazona 2 (1 pen.), Zuloaga, Luces, Neyra, Ore)

Alianza: Gonzalez (Caceres), Palacios, Durate, Salguero, Rojas, Cueto, Cubillas, Vargas, Huapaya (Illescas), La Rosa, Ravello.

Universitario: Acuzuzo, Gastulo, Cueliar, Mendoza, Adriagola, Canemero, Leguia, Zuloaga, Luces (Palacios), Ore, Neyra (Vilches).

February 28

ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0
GUARANI (Brazil) (1) 3 (Miltao 2, Bozo)

Alianza: Caceres, Duarte (Palacios), Salguero, Castillo, Rojas, Vargas, Cueto, Cubillas (Huapalla), Illescas, La Rosa, Ravello.

Guarani: Neneca, Edson, Mauro, Gomez, Mirandinha, Ze Carlos, Zenon (Marino), Renato, Capitao (Paulo Borges), Miltao, Bozo.

March 4

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (1) 3 (Bozo o.g., Ore 2)
GUARANI (Brazil) 0

Universitario: Acazuzo, Gastulo, Cueliar, Mendoza, Adriazola, Leguia, Canamero, Zuluaga, Luces, Ore, Vilches.

Guarani: Neneca, Mauro, Gomez, Edson, Miranda, Renato, Ze Carlos, Zenon, Capitao, Miltao, Bozo.

March 10

ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) (0) 2 (Ravello, Huapalla)
PALMEIRAS (Brazil) (3) 4 (Mendonca 2, Toninho, Ivo)

Alianza: Gonzalez, Canosa, Duarte, Salguero, Castillo, Rojas, Vargas,, Cueto, Illescas, Huapalla, La Rosa (Ramirez), Ravello.

Palmeiras: Gilmar, Rosemiro, Deto Fustao, Polozzi, Pedrinho, Ivo, Pires Neto, Mendonca, Amilton Rocha (Ze Carlos), Toninho (P. Rocha), Ney.

March 13

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (1) 2 (Adriazola pen., Ore)
PALMEIRAS (Brazil) (1) 5 (Mendonca 3, Toninho, Rosemiro)

Universitario: Acazuzo, Gastulo, Cueliar, Mendoza, Adriazola, Canamero (Rebatta), Leguia, Zuloaga, Luces, Ore, Vilches.

Palmeiras: Gilmar, Rosemiro, Beto, Polozzi, Pedrinho, Ivo, Olres, Mendonca, Amilton Rocha; Toninho (P. Rocha), Ney.

March 21

UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 1 (Palacios)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0

Universitario: Acazuzo, Gastulo, Cuellar, Aguilar, Adriazola, Canamero, Leguia, Zuloaga, Palacios, Ore, Vilchez.

Alianza: Gonzalez, Ganosa, Duarte, Olaechea, Salguero, Rojas, Vargas, Illescas, Cueto, Huapaya (Ramirez), La Rosa, Ravello.

March 25

PALMEIRAS (Brazil) (1) 1 (Mendonca)
GUARANI (Brazil) (2) 4 (Gomes, Zenon, Mauro, Bozo)

April 7

GUARANI (Brazil) (2) 2 (Bozo, Renato)
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0

Guarani: Neneca, Mauro, Gomes, Edon, Miranda, Ze Carlos, Zenon, Renato, Capitao, Careca, Bozo.

Alianza: Gonzalez Ganosa, Duarte, Olaechea, Salguero, Rojas, Ramirez, Cueto, Illescas, Huapaya, Larrosa, Ravello.

April 8

PALMEIRAS (Brazil) 1
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 2

April 11

GUARANI (Brazil) (3) 6 (Zenon 3, Milton 2, Ze Carlos)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) (0) 1 (Cananero)

Guarani: Neneca (Joao Roberto), Mauro, Gomes, Edson, Miranda, Ze Carlos, Renato, Zenon, Capitao, Careca (Milton), Bozo.

Universitario: Acasuzo, Gastulo, Busamante, Aguilar, Adriazola, Leguia, Canamero, Zuluaga (Vilches), Luces, Ore, Neyra.

April 12

PALMEIRAS (Brazil) 4
ALIANZA LIMA (Peru) 0

● *Continued on page 45*

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

THE European championship took priority in April and the start of Maeaayy, with matters looking brighter for England and West Germany and more doubtful for Austria and even, perhaps, Holland.

England benefited from Northern Ireland's return win over Bulgaria and look even firmer favourites to go on to the finals in Italy next year.

It's hard to work out what the Bulgars are up to. Having sent a squad of their most experienced players to South America to face Argentina, they split what was left behind the European championships and the Olympics.

The obvious danger is that they will fall between both stools. None of the other East European nations have tried to slice themselves in half in that manner. Czechoslovakia continue to look worthy of their European champions tag and a street clear of France in their group.

The French slipped away briefly to thrash the United States 6-0 in New Jersey and open up a more realistic view of the game Stateside. It's all very well pulling in the famous players who have gone over the top — excepting a few — but there's no World Cup bonanza unless the native Americans can get it right.

And they won't have the opportunity to do that while so many foreigners are being imported.

Meanwhile, back in Europe, West Germany suddenly jumped into the favourites' gear in winning 2-0 in Wales, while Poland's refreshed team under new boss Ryszard Kulesza gave warning that they are far from finished in group four.

Zbigniew Boniek continued his march to join Europe's best with his form — not to mention his opening goal — in the 2-0 defeat of Holland in Chorzow.

APRIL 1

Simferopol
Russia 3 (Blokhin 5, Shengelia 7, Gavrilov 83)
Bulgaria 1 (Panov 30)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 25,000.

Russia manager Nikita Simonian brought in several new caps including Adgan (TSKA), Gavrilov and the Dynamo Tbilisi trio of Daraselia, Koridze and Shengelia for their debuts in full internationals, rather than Olympic team tour matches.

He had to make do without injured forwards Gazzayev and Khidiatulin, but two quick goals shattered the resistance of the troubled Bulgarians.

APRIL 4

Chorzow
Poland 1 (Lato 57)
Hungary 1 (Tatar 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Scherell (EG).

Grzegorz Lato celebrated his 75th international with an excellent header which gave the Poles a deserved lead. They'd dominated most of the game up until then and could have gone ahead as early as the 14th minute but for a bad miss by Zbigniew Boniek. After the Hungarians snatched a surprise equaliser in a late rally they held on for only the second draw in 22 games between the countries. Hungary have won 17, Poland only three.

Poland: Kukla — Dziuba, Szymanowski, Zmuda, Plaszewski — Cmikiewicz, Boniek, Nawalka — Lato, Ogaza, Wrobel (Korynt 75).

Hungary: Katzirz — Torok, Koscis, Balint, Kutasi — Csepo, Tatar (Rap 80), Nyilssi, Zombori — Torocsik, Fekete (Fazekas 72)

APRIL 18

Leipzig — European championship group 4
E. Germany 2 (Streich 50, Lindemann 63)
Poland 1 (Boniek 8)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Azim-zade (Russia).

Poland dominated the first half, going ahead when veteran German goalkeeper Hans-Ullrich Grapenthin let a Boniek shot through his hands. He made amends with some useful saves afterwards and in the second half Georg Buschner's men started to put their game together.

The introduction of substitute Jürgen Pommerenke in midfield was an important move, for it appeared to encourage the hitherto lethargic Reinhard Haefner. With Gerd Kische getting a grip in defence the game turned. Joachim Streich turned up with his 31st goal in internationals, and Lutz Lindemann headed the winner — a nasty blow for Poland in their bid to overhaul Holland at the top of the table.

E. Germany: Grapenthun — Kische, Dörner, Weise, Weber — Haefner, Schade (Pommerenke 46), Lindemann — Riediger, Streich, Hoffmann.

Poland: Kukla — Dziuba (Rudy 59), Zmuda, Janas, Szymanowski — Majewski (Wrobel 77), Cmikiewicz, Boniek, Nawalka — Lato, Ogaza.

APRIL 19

Tbilisi
Russia 2 (Shengelia 49, Khidiatulin 55)
Sweden 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 75,000.

Swedish manager Georg Ericsson had totally renovated his squad, turning to the youngsters making an impression in the league partly through the need to rebuild, partly because of the absence of the foreign-based professionals. And it was new goalkeeper Thomas Wernersson, the Atvidaberg 23-year-old, who was busiest early on, when Oleg Blokhin wasted two good chances.

But the turning point came when the Russians lost injured Gazzayev in the 40th minute. Footballer of the Year Ramas Shengelia entered the game, put them ahead in the 49th and helped lay on the second for Khidiatulin.

APRIL 25

Buenos Aires (River Plate)
Argentina 2 (Houseman 3, Passarella 60)
Bulgaria 1 (H. Bonev 10)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Fortunato (Uruguay).

Argentina's first game since the World Cup Final saw manager Cesar Menotti rebuilding already, with only six of the World Cup-winners appearing. Most interest centred on youngsters Diego Maradona, the most vital piece in Menotti's new jigsaw, and he turned on a brilliant display to tease the Bulgars.

The visitors, with an experienced team captained by the recalled Hristo Bonev in midfield, did well to recover their nerve after goalkeeper Hristov fumbled to present the outstanding Rene Houseman with a quick opener. Bonev hit the equaliser from a free kick, but Argentina deserved their win, even if it meant they had to rely on Daniel Passarella's penalty for it. Maradona also hit a post and Talleres spearhead Reinaldi was just over the top with another effort.

Argentina: Fillol — Olguin, Villaverde, Passarella, Garcia — Barbas (Gaitan 64), Gallego, Maradona — Houseman, Reinaldi, Ortiz (Perotti 60).

Bulgaria: Hristov — Grancharov, B. Dimitrov, Stoikov, Aladjov — Borisov (Sokolov 67), H. Bonev (Mihailov 46), Stojanov (Stefanov 79), Kolev — Zeliaskov, Hadjiev.

MAY 1

Luxembourg — EC group 5
Luxembourg 0
Czechoslovakia 3 (Masny 22, Gajdusek 67, Stambachr 68)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,500. **Ref:** Galler (Swz).

The European champions were never in danger as they maintained their 100 per cent record so far. They attacked from the start and the only surprise was that it took 22 minutes before Kozak laid on the opener for Marian Masny. Ondrus was just wide with one effort, Kroupa had another stopped on the line, and it wasn't until the second half that the Czechs made sure.

They did so with two goals in 90 seconds. First Masny laid on a simple chance for Miroslav Gajdusek, then Stambachr headed in a corner from substitute Micek.

Luxembourg: Moes — Meunier (Fondi 82), Rohmann, Mond, Margue — Weis, Wagner, Dresch — Michaux, Di Domenico, Zwally (Neumann 22).

Czechoslovakia: Netolicka — Barnos, Vojacek, Ondrus, Gogh — Kozak, Panenka, Stambachr (Dobias 80) — Masny, Kroupa (Micek 46), Gajdusek.

MAY 2

Belfast — EC group 1
N. Ireland 2 (C. Nicholl 16, Armstrong 33)
Bulgaria 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 18,700. **Ref:** Mattsson (Finland).

If Bulgaria had much hope of snatching qualification from England, then they had to win in Belfast. But with their squads split between the championship, the Olympics and the tour party which had been in South America, they never looked confident.

With England boss Ron Greenwood on a spying mission, the Irish had the game wrapped up in little more than half an hour. First Chris Nicholl headed in unmarked after Sammy Nelson hit back a Terry Cochrane cross, then Billy Caskey put Gerry Armstrong clear of the offside trap for No 2.

The Irish could have had more. Caskey had one effort blocked on the line by Georgi Bonev, and in the second half Martin O'Neill, Sammy McIlroy and Bryan Hamilton all squandered openings.

The Bulgars weren't the gentlest of opponents. They escaped three penalty appeals and had Sretkov, Vassilev and Bonev booked. The only Irish yellow card fell to Chris Nicholl, his second of the championships.

N. Ireland: Jennings — Hamilton, J. Nicholl (Moreland 74), C. Nicholl, Nelson — McCreery, O'Neill, McIlroy — Armstrong, Caskey (Spence 77), Cochrane.

Bulgaria: Stojanov — Vassilev, Ivkov, Rainov, G. Bonev — Kolev, Sretkov, Panov — Zdravkov (Iliev 66), Djevizov, Tsvetkov.

Dublin — EC group 1
Rep. Ireland 2 (Daly 44, Givens 66)
Denmark 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 26,000. **Ref:** Vautrot (France).

A silly result for the Danes, who lined up 10 exiles. They could have won easily. They certainly dominated enough of the game and had enough chances. Yet surprisingly their biggest culprit in front of goal was Allan Simonsen. He had two early efforts well stopped by Gerry Peyton, then missed badly in the 29th minute.

In midfield Irish player-manager Johnny Giles was, at 39, shown up as a little too slow, and up front new cap Austin Hayes — he had never set foot in Ireland until he arrived from Southampton two days before the match — could make no headway.

Until, that is, a minute before half time when Hayes lifted the ball in front of Gerry Daly who miskicked Ireland into the lead.

In the second half the Danes could well have levelled. Flemming Nielsen hit the side net, Simonsen missed badly from eight yards and in the 66th minute they paid the penalty when Daly provided Don Givens with goal No 2. "That was one of the best headers I've ever seen," said Giles later. After that the Danes caved in. Paddy Mulligan was just wide once, and Daly had another goal disallowed because a forward had strayed offside as his chip floated beyond Kjar.

Denmark had Flemming Nielsen and Soren Lerby booked — Ireland had Hayes.

Rep. Ireland: Peyton — Gregg, Martin, Mulligan, Holmes — Daly, Giles, Brady — Hayes (Walsh 61), Stapleton, Givens (McGee 72).

Denmark: Kjar — F. Nielsen, Rontved, Larsen, Lerby — Lund, Arnesen, Olsen — Simonsen, B. Nielsen (Agerbek 75), Elkjar.

Vienna — EC group 2
Austria 0
Belgium 0
Att: 40,000. **Ref:** Ok (Turkey).

Despite having Herbert Prohaska only half-fit, Austria went into the game confident. After all, Belgium had lost three key men — goalkeeper Pfaff, attackers Coeck and Cluytens — to injuries the previous weekend. Yet it was the Belgians who nearly provided the first shock — Jacobs getting the ball in the net after 15 minutes, only for the goal to be disallowed because of a foul.

With skipper Julien Cools and defender Paul Renquin in top form, the Austrians were restricted to few chances. Walter Schachner headed a Prohaska pass just wide in the 29th minute but it wasn't until early in the second half that they put together any consistent raids. In the 55th minute the otherwise anonymous Hans Krankl fired over the bar, then Schachner missed badly.

Belgium had Rene Van der Eycken and Francois Van der Elst booked, but held out without much more trouble thanks to the impeccable form of Standard Liege's goalkeeper Michel Preud'homme, making his debut.

Austria: Koncilia — Sara, Obermayer, Pezzey, Mirnegg — Prohaska (Gasselich 73), Hattenberger, Baumeister — Schachner, Kreuz (Hintermaier 79), Krankl.

Belgium: Preud'homme — Gerets, Meeuws, Broos, Renquin — Cools, Van der Elst, Van der Eycken, Vercauteren — Jacobs (Dardenne 86), Janssens.

Chorzow — EC group 4
Poland 2 (Boniek 19, Mazur 64 pen)
Holland 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 100,000. **Ref:** Wurtz (France)

Holland had Rudi Krol back after injury to equal Puck Van Heel's record of 64 caps, but even he couldn't cover all the gaps forced by the lively Poles.

Played in a steady drizzle and watched by Poland's prime minister, the game was hard and fast but clean too and Poland were always on top until the Dutch launched a vain rally in the closing stages.

A Szymanowski-Lipka move set up Zbigniew Boniek to go on a slalom which ended in the opening goal, and it was a controversial penalty for hands against Krol which allowed substitute Wlodek Mazur to hit the second. In fact the Dutch had been lucky not to concede a penalty just before, when Huub Stevens brought down Ogaza.

The nearest Holland came was in the 29th minute when Kees Kist hit the bar. Otherwise it was mostly Poland, as the corner count proves — 15-4. Holland were unluckily without flu victim Johan Neeskens, but manfully as Jan Peters worked in midfield, he couldn't hold back the Polish storm. With Szymanowski, the sweeper now, Boniek and Lato outstanding they could have had more than two goals.

Poland: Kukla — Dziuba, Zmuda, Szymanowski, Plaszewski — Nawalka, Boniek, Lipka — Lato, Ogaza, Terlecki (Mazur 46).

Holland: Schrijvers — Stevens, Brandts, Krol, Hovenkamp — Jansen, Peters, W. Van der Kerkhof — R. Van der Kerkhof (Geels 46), Kist, Rensenbrink (Metgod 70).

Gerets (left) of Belgium tries to stop Prohaska (extreme right) of Austria with Cools (on the ground) watching. The international between Austria and Belgium ended 0-0.

Budapest — EC group 6
Hungary 0
Greece 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** Homewood (Eng)

With the Russian shadow looming in the background, both teams shuffled their resources in the search for two points. Hungary restored Kocsis and Balint as their partnership in the centre of defence, and team boss Ferenc Kovacs called Bela Kovacs into his squad at the last minute to cover the absence of injured Tibor Nyilssi.

Greece dropped Domazos, Delikaris and goalkeeper Constantinou after disappointing results against Rumania and Israel and very nearly went ahead in the 25th minute when Damanakis hit a Mavros cross against the woodwork.

The Hungarians started to come to grips with the game midway through the second half. Livanthinos was booked for fouling Torocsik on the edge of the penalty box in the 67th minute, but the free kick was wasted. In the 86th minute Balint forged forward to hit a post and in the midst of a flurry of three corners in the last two minutes Fazekas had a goal disallowed because of offside.

Hungary: Katzirz — Torok, Kocsis, Balint, Kutasi — Kovacs, Csapo, Zombori — Fazekas, Torocsik, Fekete.

Greece: Kalisidis — Josifidis, Firos, Gounaris, Kapsis — Damanakis, Nikoloudis, Livanthinos — Mavros, Kostikos, Ardizoglou.

Wrexham — EC group 7
Wales 0
W. Germany 2 (Zimmermann 29, Fischer 52).
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Michelotti (Italy).

From being much-criticised flops, the deposed world champions suddenly turned into favourites to qualify after completing their away programme with this vital win over the group leaders.

Tough at times, they were nevertheless also too skilful and well organised for the enthusiastic but naive Welsh. Cullmann was superb as sweeper, Bonhof and Stielike providing an iron thread in midfield — though Stielike collected a yellow card for a foul on Thomas in the 16th minute and might have seen the red after a subsequent trip on Carl Harris.

Wales also had a booking — Terry Yorath for a foul on Herbert Zimmermann, who had already proved a danger by the way he forced in Manni Kaltz's cross for the opening goal. It was Kaltz too who laid on the second goal for Klaus Fischer — his first for West Germany in competition — and there was nothing the Welsh could do. They tried a couple of substitutions — and Robbie James, on for Yorath, was just over with a 30-yard drive in the 80th minute. But by then it was far too late, on what Wales manager Mike Smith described as "a bad night for us." By contrast, West Germany's much-criticised Jupp Derwall commented: "What a wonderful result!"

Wales: Davies — Page, Phillips, Berry, J. Jones — Mahoney, Thomas, Yorath (James 75) — Harris, Edwards (Toshack 60), Curtis.

W. Germany: Maier — Kaltz, Cullman, Förster, Dietz — Bonhof, Stielike (Martin 89), Zimmermann — Rummenigge, Fischer, Allofs.

New Jersey
United States 0
France 5 (Lacombe 7, 13, 36, Droege own goal 41, Amisse 60, Six 72)
HT: 0-4. **Att:** 20,391. **Ref:** Dorantes (Mexico).

After the ballyhoo about World Cup ambitions of the Americans, their true standard below the gloss surface provided by the Beckenbauers, Pelés and Müllers, was laid bare.

The French were worried beforehand about playing on artificial turf and by the rush to the States and back in between league games. In the event the match was cakewalk, with Bernard Lacombe hitting a hat-trick.

Domenech and Amisse laid on his first, a rebound from a Petit shot his second, and the third following a raid inspired by Michel Platini and which was held up — momentarily — when Gerard Janvion's shot was diverted.

The most spectacular goal was the sixth, scored appropriately by Didier Six with a thumping volley. The nearest the Americans came was in the 67th minute when Argentine-born Angelo Dibernardo, put through by Davis, had his first effort blocked by Rey and hit his second over the top.

U.S.: Mausser (Broic 46) — Fowles (Crudo 8), Pollihan, Myernick, Droege — Bandov (Van der Beck 31), Davis, Hulcer — Di bernardo, Villa, Liveric (Nanchoff 75).

France: Dropsy (Rey 46) — Janvion, Domenech, Tresor, Bossis (Battiston 79) — Petit, Platini, Jouve (Larios 70) — Rouyer (Six 46), Lacombe (Berdoll 65), Amisse.

MAY 5

St Gallen — EC group 4
Switzerland 0
E. Germany 2 (Lindemann 44, Streich 89).
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** Lamo Castillo (Spain).

Swiss caretaker manager Leon Walker, stepping into the shoes of Roger Vonlanthen, named three newcomers in a much-changed side containing nine players with four caps or fewer. He was without the injured Claudio Sulser, and decided too that Rene Botteron wasn't fit to play from the start, though he did appear as substitute for his 37th consecutive international.

Yet it was the Swiss who made the running, forcing Grapenthian to good saves from Raimundo Ponte and Markus Tanner. Tanner also hit a post, while a Barberis header was stopped on the goal-line by Pommerenke.

Yet for all that it was the Germans who sneaked the result in the closing minute of each half. First Riediger gave Haefner the chance to round Berbig and lay a goal on a plate for Lindemann, then Streich headed in Haefner's cross.

But the hero for the East Germans was sweeper Hans-Jürgen Dörner, for his covering work at the back.

Switzerland: Berbig — Ludi, Wehrli, Bizzini, Heinz Hermann — Maissen, Baberbis, Tanner — Zwahlen (Herbert Hermann 73), Brigger (Botteron 46), Ponte.

E. Germany: Grapenthin — Kische, Dörner, Weise, Weber — Haefner, Pommerenke, Lindemann — Riediger, Streich, Hoffman.

Moscow
Russia 3 (Koridze 17, Shengelia 20, Khidiatulin 89)
Czechoslovakia 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 25,000.

MAY 9

Oslo — EC group 2
Norway 0
Portugal 1 (Alves 35)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,800. **Ref:** Kirschen (EG).

Portugal went top of the group thanks to the solitary goal from the black-gloved Joao Alves. But the Norwegians fought bravely to try to save a point, forcing 10 corners without counter in the second half. They did once get the ball in the net, but Lund's "goal" was refused because of a foul on goalkeeper Bento by Arne Oekland.

Alves, Oliveira and Bento were best for Portugal. Lund and Tor Johansen for Norway.

Norway: Amundsen — Pedersen, Kordahl, Einer Aas, Groendalen — Hansen, Albertsen, T. E. Johansen (Thunberg 70) — Lund, Mathisen (Refvik 55), Oekland.

Portugal: Bento — Artur, Humberto, Alhinho, Alberto — Eurico, Pietra, Alves — Nene (Gomes), Costa (Bastos Lopes 89), Oliveira.

Copenhagen
Denmark 2 (B. Nielsen 44, Lerby 76)
Sweden 2 (Erlandsson 34, Ohlsson 56)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 34,900.

OTHER MATCHES. — Apr 4 (Mantova): Italy under-21 1, Lge of Ireland 0. — (Forli): Italy semi-pro 3 (Wiechowood 34, Nicoletti 77, Romano 88), Bulgaria Olym. 1 (Gergov 84). Apr 8 (Tbilisi): Russia 3 (Gazzayev 27, 87, Shengelia 65), Georgia XI 0. Apr 24 (Rotterdam): Feyenoord 0, Portugal 1 (Oliveria 34). May 9 (Glogow): Poland u-21 1 (Podgorny 86), Sweden u-21 0 — (Nowy Dwon): Poland u-20 2 (Pekala, Baran), Algeria 2 (Bazis, Shaib).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMP. — Group 2: May 9 (Skein): Norway 0, Portugal 0. Group 4: Apr 17 (Piotrkow): Poland 1 (Mikulski 26), E. Germany 1 (Trautmann 34). — May 1 (Zwolle): Holland 2 (Peters 20, 60), Poland 3 (Walczik 8, Milulski 21, Motyka 83). Group 5: April 3 (Prostejow): Czechoslovakia 1 (Janecka 33), France 0. Group 7: April 4 (Gaziantep): Turkey 2 (Selcuk 30, Ilyas 67), Rumania 0. — May 2 (Salaegerszeg): Hungary 5 (Tepszich 14, Schmidt 19, 58, 62, Nagy 89), Turkey 0.

OLYMPIC qual (Europe). — *Group 1:* Apr 18 (Pitesti): Rumania 2 (Iovanescu, Radu), Hungary 0. — (Sofia): Bulgaria 1 (Gochev 51), Czechoslavakia 0. May 5 (Prague): Czechoslovakia 4 (Licka 40, 86, Rott 65, Janecka 84), Bulgaria 0. *Group 2:* Apr 18 (Ionina): Greece 1 (Kalaitzidis 35), Italy 0. May 2 (Udine): Italy 4 (Verza 3, Giordano 14, 81, Bagni 83), Greece 0. Apr 11 (Amstetten): Austria 1 (Strobl 55), Turkey 0. *Group 3:* Apr 12 (Brussels): Belgium 3 (Hoste 10, 44, Sanders 72), Spain 1 (Rubio 54). Apr 25 (Seraing): Belgium 1 (Daerden 38), Holland 0. May 9 (Murcia): Spain 1, Israel 1.

● *Continued from page 43*

April 15
GUARANI (Brazil) (0) 1 (Zenon)
PALMEIRAS (Brazil) 0

Guarani: Neneca, Mauro, Gomes, Edson, Miranda (Odailton), Ze Carlos, Zenon, Renato, Capitao, Careca (Milton), Bozo.

Palmeiras: Gilmar, Rosemiro, Marinho Perez, Polozzi, Pedrinho, Ivo (sent off), Ze Mario, Rocha, Sotter (Piris), Baroninho, Mendonca.

Group 3 — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GUARANI (Brazil)	6	5	0	1	16	5	10
Universitario (Peru)	6	4	0	2	15	15	8
Palmeiras (Brazil)	6	3	0	3	15	11	6
Alianza Lima (Peru)	6	0	0	6	5	20	0

Group 4

February 28
O'HIGGINS (Chile) (1) 1 (Pizarro)
PALESTINO (Chile) (1) 1 (Gatica o.g.)

O'Higgins: Leyes, Drogett, Gatica, Valenzuela, Serrano, Bombalet, Quiroz, Neira, Farias, Vargas, Pizarro.

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Figueroa, Fuentes, Varas, Rojas, Duso, Messen (Labarthe), Lazabal, Fabbiani, Pinto.

March 11
DEPORTIVO GALICIA (Venezuela) (1) 1
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (1) 1

Dep. Galicia: Jimenez, Javier, Acosta, Castro, Rios, Arias, Perico, Leon, Raminrez, Cabra (Alejo), Binha, Caceres.

Portuguesa: Vega, Barrera, Ochoa, Marin, Cardenas, Moss, Moreno, Peralta, Echenausi, Villaroel (Magarzo), Paez.

March 18
DEPORTIVO GALICIA (Venezuela) (0) 1 (Soto)
PALESTINO (Chile) (0) 1 (Pinto)

Dep. Galicia: Jimenez, Cecilio, Acosta, Castro, Rios, Arias, Leon, Ramirez, Alejo, Binha, Soto.

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Figueroa, Fuentes, Varas, Dubo, Pinto, Rojas, Fabbiani, Messen, Labarthe.

PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (0) 1 (Paez pen.)
O'HIGGINS (Chile) (1) 1 (Ahumada)

Portuguesa: Romero, Ochoa, Barrera, Moss, Salas, Moreno (Villaroel), Cardenas, Paez, Echenausi, Peralta, Perez Alvarez.

O'Higgins: Leyes, Serrano, Gatica, Valenzuela, Droguett, Quiroz, Bonvallet, Neira, Farias (Ahumada, Acosta), Pizarro, Vargas. Att: 8,000

March 21
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) 0
PALESTINO (Chile) (0) 2 (Fabbiani, Messen)

Portuguesa: Romero, Ochoa, Barrera, Moss, Salas (Orriols), Moreno (Villarroel), Cardenas, Paez, Echenausi, Peralta, Alvarez.

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Figueroa, Varas, Fuente, Dubo, Rojas, Celanda, Pinto, Fabbiani (Herrera), Labarthe (Messen).

Sent-off — Cardenas (Port), Dubo (Pal).

GALICIA (Venezuela) 0
O'HIGGINS (Chile) (0) 1 (Neira)

Galicia: Jimenez, Cecilio, Castro, Acosta, Rios, Arias, Leon, Ramirez, Alejo, Vinha, Soto.

O'Higgins: Leyes, Droguett, Gatica, Valenzuela, Serrano, Quiroz, Bonvallet, Neira, Farias, Vargas, Pizarro.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

EURO HISTORY

KEIR RADNEDGE continues his series on the important dates and details, facts and fixtures, of European football.

WORLD SOCCER EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

IN the past 17 years there has been almost half as much competition between national teams as in the whole of the previous years since football began.

That is clear from the latest bunch of statistics which form this part of the *Euro-history feature.*

The huge increase in international club commitments has in no way reduced national team competition. Just the opposite, in fact. The three European club tournaments provided added stimulus to national team rivalry.

Now the European championship is established as the No. 2 competition behind the World Cup for national selections. And it won't have escaped anyone's attention that the latest organisation of the tournament, with several preliminary groups of five teams, means more and more games are being squeezed into the championship.

Without a doubt the watershed year for European soccer was 1962.

This was the year of change; the year professional practicality began to gain the upper hand. It signalled the end of what we may now think of as football's naive era, and thrust us towards the all-enveloping years when it sometimes seemed football was intent on stiffling itself to death.

If any one match marked the changing pattern of the sport it was the Chile-Italy punch-up in Santiago in the first round of the 1962 World Cup Finals.

A significant game for so many reasons. First it underlined how much host teams may get away with, for Chile well deserved to have one or two men sent off along with the Italians David and Ferrini. Since then England, Mexico, West Germany to a lesser extent, and Argentina have all made the most of the huge advantages playing on your own pitches can hold.

The Battle of Santiago was also the game which finally undermined the legend of the English referee.

Ken Aston was the man in the eye of the Whirlwind that day, and was roundly criticised for not coping adequately with the storm which blew up. In fact, it's doubtful whether any referee could have coped without eyes in the back of his head. But surely it's no coincidence that as the seasons have passed so referees have become progressively easier targets, their authority and decision now totally undermined by television playbacks.

Thirdly, the Battle of Santiago warned us of the cynically pragmatic approach which would find violent expression and example through the efforts of Italian clubs to dominate Europe.

Not a year later Milan were winning the Champions' Cup, deposing the attacking artists of Benfica — last of the old guard — thanks to two fine opportunist goals from Jose Altafini, but thanks also to a heinous foul by Gino Pivatelli which crippled the Benefica general, Mario Coluna.

After Milan would come Internazionale of Milan, with their arch-priest of ruthless defence, Helenio Herrera.

At national level Sir Alf Ramsey's England brought practical containment and hard running into their own in the 1966 World Cup. It was time for the "Wingless Wonders", a chance for the drones to take the game over.

Yes, 1962 was the watershed.

And that is why I've settled on 1962 as the base year for the latest stage in our statistical review of European soccer history.

My aim here, and in the next few months, is to publicly establish full national team records for all the European countries. Ideally it would be preferable to include *all* a country's results from the year dot, but reasons of space make that impossible.

Accordingly I've settled for a detailed breakdown on results since that vital 1962 World Cup. Even for those countries who didn't compete in Chile, I will be taking their records from their first match after the finals ended.

The attempt to find out and list the details of date, venue, opponents, result and competition is not as easy as readers might imagine. I'm fortunate to have in my possession most of the necessary records, but many football associations — particularly in Eastern Europe — are reluctant to help anyone find out anything!

This issue deals with the post-1962 history of the four British associations plus the Republic of Ireland. After that, for (comparatively) easy reference, the series will continue on an alphabetical basis.

For those readers who possess the book, these statistics do tie in, coincidentally, with Gordon Jeffery's *European International Football,* published more than 15 years ago, by Nicholas Kaye.

THE KEY – *WC* = World Cup qualifiers. WCF = World Cup Finals. HI = Home Internationals. EC = European Championship).

ENGLAND

England, whatever the ups and downs of the past few years, remains the Mother of Football.

You only have to visit any foreign country to appreciate the fact. If you go as far as South America you'll find Everton and Wanderers in Chile; Newell's Old Boys in Argentina; The Strongest in Bolivia.

In Italy the English line remains in the Anglicised club names of Milan and Genoa and in Spain with Athletic of Bilbao. In Scandinavia they can't get enough of English football on television and far more Dutch players than the present trio of Muhren, Thijssen and Meyer are itching for an opportunity to play in the Football League.

The year 1962 was an important one for England in that it was the year the FA decided to catch up with the world and settle for a full-time team manager. Alf Ramsey was their choice, probably startling even himself with his forthright declaration on taking over that "England will win the 1966 World Cup."

That forecast hung like an albatross round Ramsey's neck as he suffered an initial hiding on the pitch from France in the European Championship, and in the newspapers from critical observers as well as fellow managers and players.

On October 20, 1965, Austria came to Wembley and snatched a remarkable 3-2 victory. That made them the third continental nation, after Hungary and Sweden, to beat England at home. Yet, funnily enough, instead of increasing the World Cup pressure on Ramsey, it reduced it.

Fans began resigning themselves to the fact that an English victory in the Finals was improbable. Even when the big show began Ramsey was obviously not clear on what he wanted. He tried three different right wingers in the first three games and the superbly effective if hardly exciting prospective winners emerged of their own accord, rather than by direct scheming.

Ramsey — or Sir Alf as he now is — was finally overthrown in the spring of 1974 after the Polish-inspired failure to qualify for the finals in West Germany. His Achilles' heel over substitutes — clear in the turnaround defeat by the Germans in the 1970 Mexico quarter-finals, and against Poland at Wembley in November, 1973 — was an easy peg on which to hang all the complaints which had built up, through the contempt induced by familiarity rather than because of deep-seated unease about his work.

In the light of what happened later, with three disastrous years under Don Revie, when the England team was regularly wrenched apart and put back together like an ill-fitting jigsaw, the Ramsey years soon appeared a halcyon era, climaxed, of course, by the 1966 World Cup win.

The cool mature nature of Ramsey's approach is emphasised above all in a story told by Geoff Hurst.

After scoring a hat-trick against France in a friendly in March, 1969, Hurst passed Sir Alf as he left the dressing rooms bound for home.

"Bye, Alf, see you next time," he called with the confidence of an established England star.

"Maybe," replied Ramsey.

Revie, who followed him, had been a highly successful club manager. But his reign was proof that success in the domestic League hurly-burly is not necessarily the key to international triumph. The fact has been emphasised by the relaxed determination with which Ron Greenwood has worked since following Revie in the summer of 1977.

Greenwood, with his love for attacking football based on a skilful approach rather than the dour methods of his predecessors, has given the England football team their pride back.

Plenty of credit must be due, of course, to players such as Kevin Keegan. But it's Greenwood's presence in the England camp which provides the greatest reason for confidence in the future.

ENGLAND since the 1962 World Cup

1962	May 3	France	D	1-1 Sheffield	EC
	Oct 20	N. Ireland	W	3-1 Belfast	HI
	Nov 21	Wales	W	4-0 Wembley	HI
1963	Feb 27	France	L	2-5 Paris	EC
	Apr 6	Scotland	L	1-2 Wembley	HI
	May 8	Brazil	D	1-1 Wembley	
	May 20	Czechoslovakia	W	4-2 Bratislava	
	Jun 2	E. Germany	W	2-1 Leipzig	
	Jun 5	Switzerland	W	8-1 Basle	
	Oct 12	Wales	W	4-0 Cardiff	HI
	Oct 23	Rest of the World	W	2-1 Wembley	
	Nov 20	N. Ireland	W	8-3 Wembley	HI
1964	Apr 11	Scotland	L	0-1 Glasgow	HI
	May 6	Uruguay	W	2-1 Wembley	
	May 17	Portugal	W	4-3 Lisbon	
	May 24	Rep. of Ireland	W	3-1 Dublin	
	May 27	U.S.A.	W	10-0 New York	
	May 30	Brazil	L	1-5 Rio de Janeiro	
	Jun 4	Portugal	D	1-1 Sao Paulo	
	Jun 6	Argentina	L	0-1 Rio de Janeiro	
	Oct 3	N. Ireland	W	4-3 Belfast	HI
	Oct 21	Belgium	D	2-2 Wembley	
	Nov 18	Wales	W	2-1 Wembley	HI
	Dec 9	Holland	D	1-1 Amsterdam	
1965	Apr 10	Scotland	D	2-2 Wembley	HI
	May 5	Hungary	W	1-0 Wembley	
	May 9	Yugoslavia	D	1-1 Belgrade	
	May 12	W. Germany	W	1-0 Nuremberg	
	May 16	Sweden	W	2-1 Gothenburg	
	Oct 2	Wales	D	0-0 Cardiff	HI
	Oct 20	Austria	L	2-3 Wembley	
	Nov 10	N. Ireland	W	2-1 Wembley	HI
	Dec 8	Spain	W	2-0 Madrid	
1966	Jan 5	Poland	D	1-1 Liverpool	
	Feb 23	W. Germany	W	1-0 Wembley	
	Apr 2	Scotland	W	4-3 Glasgow	HI
	May 4	Yugoslavia	W	2-0 Wembley	
	Jun 26	Finland	W	3-0 Helsinki	
	Jun 29	Norway	W	6-1 Oslo	
	Jul 3	Denmark	W	2-0 Copenhagen	
	Jul 3	Poland	W	1-0 Chorzow	
	Jul 11	Uruguay	D	0-0 Wembley	WCF
	Jul 16	Mexico	W	2-0 Wembley	WCF
	Jul 20	France	W	2-0 Wembley	WCF
	Jul 23	Argentina	W	1-0 Wembley	WCF

Ray Clemence makes a save for England against Yugoslavia.

	Jul 26	Portugal	W	2-1 Wembley	WCF
	Jul 30	W. Germany	W	4-2 Wembley aet	WCF/1st
	Oct 22	N. Ireland	W	2-0 Belfast	HI/EC
	Nov 2	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0 Wembley	
	Nov 16	Wales	W	5-1 Wembley	HI/EC
1967	Apr 15	Scotland	L	2-3 Wembley	HI/EC
	May 24	Spain	W	2-0 Wembley	
	May 27	Austria	W	1-0 Vienna	
	Oct 21	Wales	W	3-0 Cardiff	HI/EC
	Nov 22	N. Ireland	W	2-0 Wembley	HI/EC
	Dec 6	Russia	D	2-2 Wembley	
1968	Feb 24	Scotland	D	1-1 Glasgow	HI/EC
	Apr 3	Spain	W	1-0 Wembley	EC
	May 6	Spain	W	2-1 Madrid	EC
	May 22	Sweden	W	3-1 Wembley	
	Jun 1	W. Germany	L	0-1 Hanover	
	Jun 5	Yugoslavia	L	0-1 Florence	EC
	Jun 8	Russia	W	2-0 Rome	EC/3rd pl
	Nov 6	Rumania	D	0-0 Bucharest	
	Dec 11	Bulgaria	D	1-1 Wembley	
1969	Jan 15	Rumania	D	1-1 Wembley	
	Mar 12	France	W	5-0 Wembley	
	May 3	N. Ireland	W	3-1 Belfast	HI
	May 7	Wales	W	2-1 Wembley	HI
	May 10	Scotland	W	4-1 Wembley	HI
	Jun 1	Mexico	D	0-0 Mexico City	
	Jun 8	Uruguay	W	2-1 Montevideo	
	Jun 12	Brazil	L	1-2 Rio de Janeiro	
	Nov 5	Holland	W	1-0 Amsterdam	
	Dec 10	Portugal	W	1-0 Wembley	
1970	Jan 14	Holland	D	0-0 Wembley	
	Feb 25	Belgium	W	3-1 Brussels	
	Apr 18	Wales	D	1-1 Cardiff	HI
	Apr 21	N. Ireland	W	3-1 Wembley	HI
	Apr 25	Scotland	D	0-0 Glasgow	
	May 20	Colombia	W	4-0 Bogota	
	May 24	Ecuador	W	2-0 Quito	
	Jun 2	Rumania	W	1-0 Guadalajara	WCF
	Jun 7	Brazil	L	0-1 Guadalajara	WCF
	Jun 11	Czechoslovakia	W	1-0 Guadalajara	WCF
	Jun 14	W. Germany	L	2-3 Leon aet	WCF
	Nov 25	E. Germany	W	3-1 Wembley	
1971	Feb 3	Malta	W	1-0 Valletta	EC
	Apr 21	Greece	W	3-0 Wembley	EC
	May 12	Malta	W	5-0 Wembley	EC
	May 15	N. Ireland	W	1-0 Belfast	HI
	May 19	Wales	D	0-0 Wembley	HI
	May 22	Scotland	W	3-1 Wembley	HI
	Oct 13	Switzerland	W	3-2 Basle	EC
	Nov 10	Switzerland	D	1-1 Wembley	EC
	Dec 1	Greece	W	2-0 Athens	EC
1972	Apr 29	W. Germany	L	1-3 Wembley	EC
	May 13	W. Germany	D	0-0 W. Berlin	EC
	May 20	Wales	W	3-0 Cardiff	HI
	May 23	N. Ireland	L	0-1 Wembley	HI
	May 27	Scotland	W	1-0 Glasgow	HI
	Oct 11	Yugoslavia	D	1-1 Wembley	
	Nov 15	Wales	W	1-0 Cardiff	WC
1973	Jan 24	Wales	D	1-1 Wembley	WC
	Feb 14	Scotland	W	5-0 Glasgow	
	May 12	N. Ireland	W	2-1 Liverpool	HI
	May 15	Wales	W	3-0 Wembley	HI
	May 19	Scotland	W	1-0 Wembley	HI
	May 27	Prague	D	1-1 Prague	
	Jun 6	Poland	L	0-2 Chorzow	WC
	Jun 10	Russia	W	2-1 Moscow	
	Jun 14	Italy	L	2-0 Turin	
	Sep 26	Austria	W	7-0 Wembley	
	Oct 17	Poland	D	1-1 Wembley	WC
	Nov 14	Italy	L	0-1 Wembley	
1974	Apr 3	Portugal	D	0-0 Lisbon	
	May 11	Wales	W	2-0 Cardiff	HI
	May 15	N. Ireland	W	1-0 Wembley	HI
	May 18	Scotland	L	0-2 Glasgow	HI
	May 22	Argentina	D	2-2 Wembley	
	May 29	E. Germany	D	1-1 Leipzig	
	Jun 1	Bulgaria	W	1-0 Sofia	
	Jun 5	Yugoslavia	D	2-2 Belgrade	
	Oct 30	Czechoslovakia	W	3-0 Wembley	EC
	Nov 20	Portugal	D	0-0 Wembley	EC
1975	Mar 12	W. Germany	W	2-0 Wembley	
	Apr 16	Cyprus	W	5-0 Wembley	EC
	May 11	Cyprus	W	1-0 Limassol	EC
	May 17	N. Ireland	D	0-0 Belfast	HI
	May 21	Wales	D	2-2 Wembley	HI
	May 24	Scotland	W	5-1 Wembley	HI
	Sep 3	Switzerland	W	2-1 Basle	
	Oct 30	Czechoslovakia	L	1-2 Bratislava	EC
	Nov 19	Portugal	D	1-1 Lisbon	EC
1976	Mar 24	Wales	W	2-1 Wrexham	
	May 8	Wales	W	1-0 Cardiff	HI
	May 11	N. Ireland	W	4-0 Wembley	HI
	May 15	Scotland	W	1-2 Glasgow	HI
	May 23	Brazil	L	0-1 Los Angeles	
	May 26	Italy	W	3-2 New York	
	Jun 13	Finland	W	4-1 Helsinki	WC
	Sep 8	Re. Ireland	D	1-1 Wembley	
	Oct 13	Finland	W	2-1 Wembley	WC
	Nov 17	Italy	L	0-2 Rome	WC
1977	Feb 9	Holland	L	0-2 Wembley	
	Mar 30	Luxembourg	W	5-0 Wembley	WC
	May 28	N. Ireland	W	2-1 Belfast	HI
	May 31	Wales	L	0-1 Wembley	HI
	Jun 4	Scotland	L	1-2 Wembley	HI
	Jun 8	Brazil	D	0-0 Rio de Janeiro	
	Jun 12	Argentina	D	1-1 Buenos Aires	
	Jun 15	Uruguay	D	0-0 Montevideo	
	Sep 7	Switzerland	D	0-0 Wembley	
	Oct 12	Luxembourg	W	2-0 Luxembourg	WC
	Nov 16	Italy	W	2-0 Wembley	WC
1978	Feb 22	W. Germany	L	1-2 Munich	
	Apr 19	Brazil	D	1-1 Wembley	
	May 13	Wales	W	3-1 Cardiff	HI
	May 16	N. Ireland	W	1-0 Wembley	HI
	May 20	Scotland	W	1-0 Glasgow	HI
	May 24	Hungary	W	4-1 Wembley	
	Sep 20	Denmark	W	4-3 Copenhagen	EC
	Oct 25	Rep. Ireland	D	1-1 Dublin	EC
	Nov 29	Czechoslovakia	W	1-0 Wembley	

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	166	97	42	27	310	141
From 1872 up to WC '62	359	213	67	79	1042	484
Total since 1872	525	310	109	106	1352	625

SCOTLAND

ENGLISH football has always been the butt of a lot of humour abroad because of its insularity, but in point of fact the Scots have proved far more xenophobic and it's cost them dear.

The thinking that "We'll let the other team worry about us," was among the reasons for the 1978 World Cup fiasco. And it was summed up by the fans who told me shortly before last year's game against England, that: "This is the game that really matters. The World Cup takes second place to beating England."

In the 1950s Scotland suffered terribly from a failure to come to terms with the exodus to England of all their best players. Either the Scotland team would be chosen exclusively of Anglos, or it would be an independent north-of-the-border-only section.

Only in the past few years has the warring subsided in the common interest of putting together the strongest team, whoever they may play for.

The Scots have been handicapped too by the lack of continuity in their managership. Bobby Brown seemed settled in the early 1970s yet he departed halfway through a World Cup qualifying campaign.

Later Tommy Docherty appeared established, pointing Scotland powerfully in the direction of the West German World Cup Finals in 1974 — the Scots' first appearance at the soccer summit for 16 years. But before the finals Docherty had been lured away by Manchester United and Willie Ormond was shoved in at the deep end.

Ormond stepped out suddenly two years ago — some say he was about to be sacked anyway — and Ally MacLeod stepped in, a man sadly ill-equipped to lead a team with pretensions to the World Cup.

As in 1974, the Scots missed their chances against the minnows and with the Willie Johnston dope scandal ruining already bad morale, MacLeod was on his way out.

Once again then it is up to former Leeds and Celtic boss Stein — this time on a permanent basis. There is no Denis Law, no Billy Bremner, no Willie Johnstone now. But with players of the calibre of Kenny Dalglish and Graeme Souness, the Scots could be among the likely lads in the 1982 World Cup in Spain!

If, that is, World Cup willies don't get at them again!

SCOTLAND since the 1962 World Cup

1962	Oct 20	Wales	W	3-2 Cardiff	HI
	Nov 7	N. Ireland	W	5-1 Glasgow	HI
1963	Apr 6	England	W	2-1 Wembley	HI
	May 8	Austria	W	4-1 Glasgow	
	Jun 4	Norway	L	3-4 Bergen	
	Jun 9	Rep. Ireland	L	0-1 Dublin	
	Jun 13	Spain	W	6-2 Madrid	
	Oct 13	N. Ireland	L	1-2 Belfast	HI
	Nov 7	Norway	W	6-1 Glasgow	
	Nov 20	Wales	W	2-1 Glasgow	HI
1964	Apr 11	England	W	1-0 Glasgow	HI
	May 12	W. Germany	D	2-2 Hanover	
	Oct 3	Wales	L	2-3 Cardiff	HI
	Oct 21	Finland	W	3-1 Glasgow	WC
	Nov 25	N. Ireland	W	3-2 Glasgow	HI
1965	Apr 10	England	D	2-2 Wembley	HI
	May 8	Spain	D	0-0 Glasgow	
	May 23	Poland	D	1-1 Chorzow	WC
	May 27	Finland	W	2-1 Helsinki	WC
	Oct 2	N. Ireland	L	2-3 Belfast	HI
	Oct 13	Poland	L	1-2 Glasgow	WC
	Nov 9	Italy	W	1-0 Glasgow	WC
	Nov 24	Wales	W	4-1 Glasgow	HI
	Dec 7	Italy	L	0-3 Naples	WC
1966	Apr 2	England	L	3-4 Glasgow	HI
	May 11	Holland	L	0-3 Glasgow	
	Jun 18	Portugal	L	0-1 Glasgow	
	Jun 25	Brazil	D	1-1 Glasgow	
	Oct 22	Wales	D	1-1 Cardiff	HI/EC
	Nov 16	N. Ireland	W	2-1 Glasgow	HI(EC
1967	Apr 15	England	W	3-2 Wembley	HI(EC
	May 10	Russia	L	0-2 Glasgow	
	Oct 21	N. Ireland	L	0-1 Belfast	HI/EC
	Nov 22	Wales	W	3-2 Glasgow	HI/EC
1968	Feb 24	England	D	1-1 Glasgow	HE/EC
	May 30	Holland	D	0-0 Amsterdam	
	Oct 16	Denmark	W	1-0 Copenhagen	
	Nov 6	Austria	W	2-1 Glasgow	WC
	Dec 11	Cyprus	W	5-0 Nicosia	WC
1969	Apr 16	W. Germany	D	1-1 Glasgow	WC
	May 3	Wales	W	5-3 Wrexham	HI
	May 6	N. Ireland	D	1-1 Glasgow	HI
	May 10	England	L	1-4 Wembley	HI
	May 12	Cyprus	W	8-0 Glasgow	WC
	Sep 12	Rep. Ireland	D	1-1 Dublin	
	Oct 22	W. Germany	L	2-3 Hamburg	WC
	Nov 5	Austria	L	0-2 Vienna	WC
1970	Apr 18	N. Ireland	W	1-0 Belfast	HI
	Apr 22	Wales	D	0-0 Glasgow	HI
	Apr 25	England	D	0-0 Glasgow	HI
	Nov 11	Denmark	W	1-0 Glasgow	EC
1971	Feb 3	Belgium	L	0-3 Liege	EC
	Apr 21	Portugal	L	0-2 Lisbon	EC
	May 15	Wales	D	0-0 Cardiff	HI
	May 18	N. Ireland	L	0-1 Glasgow	HI
	May 22	England	L	1-3 Wembley	HI
	Jun 9	Denmark	L	0-1 Copenhagen	EC
	Jun 14	Russia	L	0-1 Moscow	
	Oct 13	Portugal	W	2-1 Glasgow	EC
	Nov 10	Belgium	W	1-0 Aberdeen	EC
	Dec 1	Holland	L	1-2 Amsterdam	
1972	Apr 26	Peru	W	2-0 Glasgow	
	May 20	N. Ireland	W	2-0 Glasgow	HI
	May 24	Wales	W	1-0 Glasgow	HI
	May 27	England	L	0-1 Glasgow	HI
	Jun 29	Yugoslavia	D	2-2 Belo Horizonte	
	Jul 2	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0 Porto Alegre	
	Jul 5	Brazil	L	0-1 Rio de Janeiro	
	Oct 18	Denmark	W	4-1 Copenhagen	WC
	Nov 15	Denmark	W	2-0 Glasgow	WC
1973	Feb 14	England	L	0-5 Glasgow	
	May 12	Wales	W	2-0 Wrexham	HI
	May 16	N. Ireland	L	1-2 Belfast	HI
	May 19	England	L	0-1 Wembley	HI
	Jun 22	Switzerland	L	0-1 Berne	
	Jun 30	Brazil	L	0-1 Glasgow	
	Sep 26	Czechoslovakia	W	2-1 Glasgow	WC
	Oct 17	Czechoslovakia	L	0-1 Bratislava	WC
	Nov 14	W. Germany	D	1-1 Glasgow	
1974	Mar 27	W. Germany	L	1-2 Frankfurt	
	May 11	N. Ireland	L	0-1 Glasgow	HI
	May 14	Wales	W	2-0 Glasgow	HI
	May 18	England	W	2-0 Glasgow	HI
	Jun 1	Belgium	L	1-2 Bruges	
	Jun 6	Norway	L	1-2 Oslo	
	Jun 14	Zaire	W	2-0 Dortmund	WCF
	Jun 18	Brazil	D	0-0 Frankfurt	WCF
	Jun 22	Yugoslavia	D	1-1 Frankfurt	WCF

● *Continued overleaf*

● *Continued from previous page*

Oct 30	E. Germany	W	3-0	Glasgow	
Nov 20	Spain	L	1-2	Glasgow	EC
1975 Feb 5	Spain	D	1-1	Valencia	EC
Apr 16	Sweden	D	1-1	Gothenburg	
May 13	Portugal	W	1-0	Glasgow	
May 17	Wales	D	2-2	Cardiff	HI
May 20	N. Ireland	W	3-0	Glasgow	HI
May 24	England	L	1-5	Wembley	HI
Jun 1	Rumania	D	1-1	Bucharest	EC
Sep 3	Denmark	W	1-0	Copenhagen	EC
Oct 29	Denmark	W	3-1	Glasgow	EC
Dec 17	Rumania	D	1-1	Glasgow	EC
1976 Apr 7	Switzerland	W	1-0	Glasgow	
May 6	Wales	W	3-1	Glasgow	
HIMay 8	N. Ireland	W	3-0	Glasgow	HI
May 15	England	W	2-1	Glasgow	HI
Sep 8	Finland	W	6-0	Glasgow	
Oct 13	Czechoslovakia	L	0-2	Prague	WC
Nov 17	Wales	W	1-0	Glasgow	WC
1977 Apr 27	Sweden	W	3-1	Glasgow	
May 28	Wales	D	0-0	Wrexham	HI
Jun 1	N. Ireland	W	3-0	Glasgow	HI
Jun 4	England	W	2-1	Wembley	HI
Jun 15	Chile	W	4-2	Santiago	
Jun 18	Argentina	D	1-1	Buenos Aires	
Jun 23	Brazil	L	0-2	Rio de Janeiro	
Sep 7	E. Germany	L	0-1	E. Berlin	
Sep 21	Czechoslovakia	W	3-1	Glasgow	WC
Oct 12	Wales	W	2-0	Liverpool	WC
1978 Feb 22	Bulgaria	W	2-1	Glasgow	
May 13	N. Ireland	D	1-1	Glasgow	HI
May 17	Wales	D	1-1	Glasgow	HI
May 20	England	L	0-1	Glasgow	HI
Jun 3	Peru	L	1-3	Cordoba	WCF
Jun 7	Iran	D	1-1	Cordoba	WCF
Jun 11	Holland	W	3-2	Mendoza	WCF
Sep 20	Austria	L	2-3	Vienna	EC
Oct 25	Norway	W	3-2	Glasgow	EC
Nov 29	Portugal	L	0-1	Lisbon	WC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	127	55	29	43	201	155
From 1872 to WC '62	290	152	56	72	697	402
Total	417	217	85	115	898	557

NORTHERN IRELAND

THE GREATEST success in Northern Ireland's history was to reach the World Cup quarter-finals in 1958. Captain then was Danny Blanchflower, but though Danny Boy has now been manager for three years, there are no signs yet of anything to match that Swedish surprise.

George Best, Northern Ireland's greatest player — of all time? — is now a wandering minstrel in the United States, and recent sad results such as the defeats by Cyprus in 1973 and Iceland in 1977 only serve to show up the problem facing the Six Counties' football team.

Blanchflower, once a great right-half with Tottenham, is a devotee of attacking football. But his approach has brought scant reward even if the Irish did recently carry off a shock 2-0 win in Bulgaria in the European championship.

Since 1958 they have never remotely threatened to return to the World Cup finals and in the European championship, too, have achieved nothing.

Northern Ireland continue supplying talented players for the English clubs — Martin O'Neill of Nottingham Forest and Sammy McIlroy of Manchester United are two obvious examples — but there has been complete failure in the bid to mould the exiles into one useful team.

Blanchflower is running out of time.

NORTHERN IRELAND since the 1962 World Cup

1962 Oct 10	Poland	W	2-0	Chorzow	EC
Oct 20	England	L	3-1	Belfast	HI
Nov 7	Scotland	L	1-5	Glasgow	HI
Nov 28	Poland	W	2-0	Belfast	EC
1963 Apr 3	Wales	L	1-4	Belfast	HI
May 30	Spain	D	1-1	Bilbao	EC
Oct 12	Scotland	W	2-1	Belfast	HI
Oct 30	Spain	L	0-1	Belfast	EC
Nov 20	England	L	3-8	Wembley	HI
1964 Apr 15	Wales	W	3-2	Swansea	HI
Apr 29	Uruguay	W	3-0	Belfast	
Oct 3	England	L	3-4	Belfast	HI
Oct 14	Switzerland	W	1-0	Belfast	WC
Nov 14	Switzerland	L	1-2	Lausanne	WC
Nov 25	Scotland	L	2-3	Glasgow	HI
1965 Mar 17	Holland	W	2-1	Belfast	WC
Mar 31	Wales	L	0-5	Belfast	HI
Apr 7	Holland	D	0-0	Rotterdam	WC
May 7	Albania	W	4-1	Belfast	WC
Oct 2	Scotland	W	3-2	Belfast	HI
Nov 10	England	L	1-2	Wembley	HI
Nov 24	Albania	D	1-1	Tirana	WC
1966 Mar 30	Wales	W	4-1	Cardiff	HI
May 7	W. Germany	L	0-2	Belfast	
Jun 22	Mexico	W	4-1	Belfast	HI(EC
Nov 16	Scotland	L	1-2	Glasgow	HIEC
1967 Apr 12	Wales	D	0-0	Belfast	HI(EC
Oct 21	Scotland	W	1-0	Belfast	HI/EC
Nov 22	England	L	0-2	Wembley	HI/EC
1968 Feb 28	Wales	L	2-0	Wrexham	HI/EC
Sep 10	Israel	W	3-2	Jaffa	
Oct 23	Turkey	W	4-1	Belfast	WC
Dec 11	Turkey	W	3-0	Instanbul	WC
1969 May 3	England	L	1-3	Belfast	HI
May 6	Scotland	D	1-1	Glasgow	HI
May 10	Wales	D	0-0	Belfast	HI
Sep 10	Russia	D	0-0	Belfast	WC
Oct 22	Russia	L	0-2	Moscow	WC
1970 Apr 18	Scotland	L	0-1	Belfast	HI
Apr 21	England	L	1-3	Wembley	HI
Apr 25	Wales	L	0-1	Swansea	HI
Nov 11	Spain	L	0-3	Seville	EC
1971 Feb 3	Cyprus	W	3-0	Nicosia	EC
Apr 21	Cyprus	W	5-0	Belfast	EC
May 15	England	L	0-1	Belfast	HI
May 18	Scotland	W	1-0	Glasgow	HI
May 22	Wales	W	1-0	Belfast	HI
Sep 22	Russia	L	0-1	Moscow	EC
Oct 13	Russia	D	1-1	Belfast	EC
1972 Feb 16	Spain	D	1-1	Hull (Eng)	EC
May 20	Scotland	L	0-2	Glasgow	HI
May 23	England	W	1-0	Wembley	HI
May 27	Wales	D	0-0	Wrexham	HI
Oct 18	Bulgaria	L	0-3	Sofia	WC
1973 Feb 14	Cyprus	L	0-1	Nicosia	WC
Mar 28	Portugal	D	1-1	Coventry (Eng)	WC
May 8	Cyprus	W	3-0	Fulham (Eng)	WC
May 12	England	L	1-2	Liverpool	HI
May 16	Scotland	W	2-1	Glasgow	HI
May 19	Wales	W	1-0	Liverpool	HI
Sep 26	Bulgaria	D	0-0	Sheffield Wed	WC
Nov 14	Portugal	D	1-1	Lisbon	WC
1974 May 11	Scotland	W	1-0	Glasgow	HI
May 15	England	L	0-1	Wembley	HI
May 18	Wales	L	0-1	Wrexham	HI
Sep 4	Norway	L	1-2	Oslo	EC
Oct 30	Sweden	W	2-0	Solna	EC
1975 Mar 16	Yugoslavia	W	1-0	Belfast	EC
May 17	England	D	0-0	Belfast	HI
May 20	Scotland	L	0-3	Glasgow	HI
May 23	Wales	W	1-0	Belfast	HI
Sep 3	Sweden	L	1-2	Belfast	EC
Oct 29	Norway	W	3-0	Belfast	EC
Nov 19	Yugoslavia	L	0-1	Belgrade	EC
1976 Mar 24	Israel	D	1-1	Tel Aviv	
May 8	Scotland	L	0-3	Glasgow	HI
May 11	England	L	0-4	Wembley	HI
May 14	Wales	L	0-1	Swansea	HI
Oct 13	Holland	D	2-2	Rotterdam	WC
Nov 10	Belgium	L	0-2	Liege	WC
1977 Apr 27	W. Germany	L	0-5	Cologne	
May 28	England	L	1-2	Belfast	HI
Jun 1	Scotland	L	0-3	Glasgow	HI
Jun 3	Wales	D	1-1	Belfast	HI
Jun 11	Iceland	L	0-1	Reykjavik	WC
Sep 21	Iceland	W	2-0	Belfast	WC
Oct 12	Holland	L	0-1	Belfast	WC
Nov 16	Belgium	W	3-0	Belfast	WC
1978 May 13	Scotland	D	1-1	Glasgow	HI
May 16	England	L	0-1	Wembley	HI
May 19	Wales	L	0-1	Wrexham	HI
Sep 20	Rep. Ireland	D	0-0	Dublin	EC
Oct 25	Denmark	W	2-1	Belfast	EC
Nov 29	Bulgaria	W	2-0	Sofia	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	95	32	19	44	107	130
From 1882 to WC '62	224	38	41	145	265	676
Total	319	70	60	189	372	796

Kenny Dalglish (left) in action for Scotland against Czechoslovakia.

WALES

ALONG with Northern Ireland, Wales hold the record for the fewest games played among the British associations in the past 19 years — 95 apiece.

The reasons were for a long time because it was not possible to prise the best players away from their English league clubs. But now UEFA tournament dates are reasonably firm, it's been possible for the Welsh to make sure — as often as possible — that their games run when the other national teams of the UK are in action too.

That means getting all the players Mike Smith would want.

Smith, an Englishman carrying out the Welsh manager's job, has great understanding of the limits and strengths of the force at his disposal. He travels Europe to spy on opponents and is a man who leaves nothing to chance.

Wales's last appearance in the World Cup Finals was in 1958, when they lost to Brazil in the quarter-finals, having beaten Hungary in a first-round play-off.

Since then there has been nothing to cheer. Until now. Welsh fans are cautiously wondering how to find the money to afford to follow Wales to Italy for the European championship finals.

It's not the emergence of a big star which has made the difference, but the team spirit instilled by Smith and topped up by some useful results, particularly those wins last autumn over Malta and Turkey in the European championship.

WALES since the 1962 World Cup

1962 Oct 20	Scotland	L	2-3	Cardiff	HI
Nov 7	Hungary	L	1-3	Budapest	EC
Nov 21	England	L	0-4	Wembley	HI
1963 Mar 20	Hungary	D	1-1	Cardiff	EC
Apr 3	N. Ireland	W	4-1	Belfast	HI
Oct 12	England	L	0-4	Cardiff	HI
Nov 20	Scotland	L	1-2	Glasgow	HI
1964 Apr 15	N. Ireland	L	2-3	Swansea	HI
Oct 3	Scotland	W	3-2	Cardiff	HI
Oct 21	Denmark	L	0-1	Copenhagen	WC
Nov 18	England	L	1-2	Wembley	HI
Dec 9	Greece	L	0-2	Athens	WC
1965 May 17	Greece	W	4-1	Cardiff	WC
Mar 31	N. Ireland	W	5-0	Belfast	HI
May 1	Italy	L	1-4	Florence	
May 30	Russia	L	1-2	Moscow	WC
Oct 2	England	D	0-0	Cardiff	HI
Oct 27	Russia	W	2-1	Cardiff	WC
Nov 24	Scotland	L	1-4	Glasgow	HI
Dec 1	Denmark	W	4-2	Wrexham	WC
1966 Mar 30	N. Ireland	L	1-4	Cardiff	HI
May 14	Brazil	L	1-3	Rio de Janeiro	
May 18	Brazil	L	0-1	Belo Horizonte	
May 22	Chile	L	0-2	Santiago	
Nov 16	England	L	1-5	Wembley	HI/EC
1967 Apr 12	N. Ireland	D	0-0	Belfast	HI/EC
Oct 21	England	L	0-3	Cardiff	HI/EC
Nov 22	Scotland	L	2-3	Glasgow	HI/EC
1968 Feb 28	N. Ireland	W	2-0	Wrexham	HI/EC
May 8	W. Germany	D	1-1	Cardiff	
Oct 23	Italy	L	0-1	Cardiff	WC
1969 Mar 26	W. Germany	D	1-1	Frankfurt	
Apr 16	E. Germany	L	1-2	Dresden	WC
May 3	Scotland	L	3-5	Wrexham	HI
May 7	England	L	1-2	Wembley	HI
May 10	N. Ireland	D	0-0	Belfast	HI
Jul 28	United King.	L	0-1	Cardiff	
Oct 22	E. Germany	L	1-3	Cardiff	WC
Nov 4	Italy	L	1-4	Rome	WC
1970 Apr 18	England	D	1-1	Cardiff	HI
Apr 22	Scotland	D	0-0	Glasgow	HI
Apr 25	N. Ireland	W	1-0	Swansea	HI
Nov 11	Rumania	D	0-0	Cardiff	EC
1971 Apr 21	Czechoslovakia	L	1-3	Swansea	EC
May 15	Scotland	D	0-0	Cardiff	HI
May 18	England	D	0-0	Wembley	HI
May 22	N. Ireland	L	0-1	Belfast	HI
May 26	Finland	W	1-0	Helsinki	EC

Oct 13	Finland	W	3-0	Swansea	EC
Oct 27	Czechoslovakia	L	0-1	Prague	EC
Nov 24	Rumania	L	0-2	Rumania	EC
1972 May 20	England	L	0-3	Cardiff	HI
May 24	Scotland	L	0-1	Glasgow	HI
May 27	N. Ireland	D	0-0	Wrexham	HI
Nov 15	England	L	0-1	Cardiff	WC
1973 Jan 24	England	D	1-1	Wembley	WC
Mar 28	Poland	W	2-0	Cardiff	WC
May 12	Scotland	W	2-0	Wrexham	HI
May 15	England	L	0-3	Wembley	HI
May 19	N. Ireland	L	0-1	Liverpool	HI
Sep 26	Poland	L	0-3	Chorzow	WC
1974 May 11	England	L	0-2	Cardiff	HI
May 14	Scotland	L	0-2	Glasgow	HI
May 18	N. Ireland	W	1-0	Wrexham	HI
Sep 4	Austria	L	1-2	Vienna	EC
Oct 30	Hungary	W	2-0	Cardiff	EC
Nov 20	Luxembourg	W	5-0	Swansea	EC
1975 Apr 16	Hungary	W	2-1	Budapest	EC
May 1	Luxembourg	W	3-1	Luxembourg	EC
May 17	Scotland	D	2-2	Cardiff	HI
May 21	England	D	2-2	Wembley	HI
May 23	N. Ireland	L	0-1	Belfast	HI
Nov 19	Austria	W	1-0	Wrexham	EC
1976 Mar 24	England	L	1-2	Wrexham	
May 6	Scotland	L	1-3	Glasgow	HI
May 8	England	L	0-1	Cardiff	HI
May 14	N. Ireland	W	1-0	Swansea	HI
Oct 6	W. Germany	L	0-2	Cardiff	
Nov 17	Scotland	L	0-1	Glasgow	WC
1977 Mar 30	Czechoslovakia	W	3-0	Wrexham	WC
May 28	Scotland	D	0-0	Wrexham	HI
May 31	England	W	1-0	Wembley	HI
Jun 3	N. Ireland	D	1-1	Belfast	HI
Sep 6	Kuwait	D	0-0	Wrexham	
Sep 20	Kuwait	D	0-0	Kuwait	
Oct 12	Scotland	L	0-2	Liverpool	WC
Nov 16	Czechoslovakia	L	0-1	Prague	WC
Dec 14	W. Germany	D	1-1	Dortmund	
1978 Apr 18	Iran	W	1-0	Teheran	
May 13	England	L	1-3	Cardiff	HI
May 17	Scotland	D	1-1	Glasgow	HI
May 19	N. Ireland	W	1-0	Wrexham	HI
Oct 25	Malta	W	7-0	Wrexham	EC
Nov 29	Turkey	W	1-0	Wrexham	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	95	24	22	49	100	138
From 1876 to WC '62	247	67	50	130	382	565
Totals	342	91	72	179	482	703

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

THE REPUBLIC, who first played internationals in 1924 after the split with the North in 1921, have consistently been handicapped by the raids of English clubs on their best players, and the lack of a regular tournament — such as the British home championship — to keep their men sharp.

They have never reached the finals of the World Cup or European championship, although if they are ever do go so far they have the right manager in Johnny Giles.

Giles played around 50 times for the Republic, and has now reigned as player-manager for six years. In that time he's put organisation and consistency into the team and while the Republic will always be at the mercy of British club calls, there is a far more solid look about the team.

In David O'Leary in the centre of defence and Liam Brady in midfield, the Irish have two of the most outstanding young players in Europe. Brady is only 23 yet made his international debut against Russia at 18.

The Republic have never won more than three games in a row, but on the other hand they seem to have left behind them the disastrous spell between 1968 and 1972 when they failed to win in 18 full internationals!

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND since the 1962 World Cup

1962 Aug 12	Iceland	W	4-2	Dublin	EC
Sep 2	Iceland	D	1-1	Reykjavik	EC
1963 Jun 9	Scotland	W	1-0	Dublin	
Sep 25	Austria	D	0-0	Vienna	EC
Oct 13	Austria	W	3-2	Dublin	EC
1964 Mar 11	Spain	L	1-5	Seville	EC
Apr 8	Spain	L	0-2	Dublin	EC
May 10	Poland	L	1-3	Krakow	
May 13	Norway	W	4-1	Oslo	
May 24	England	L	1-3	Dublin	
Oct 25	Poland	W	3-2	Dublin	
1965 Mar 24	Belgium	L	0-2	Dublin	
May 5	Spain	W	1-0	Dublin	WC
Oct 27	Spain	L	1-4	Seville	WC
Nov 10	Spain	L	0-1	Paris	WC
1966 May 4	W. Germany	L	0-4	Dublin	
May 22	Austria	L	0-1	Vienna	
May 25	Belgium	W	3-2	Liege	
Oct 23	Spain	L	0-2	Valencia	EC
Nov 16	Turkey	W	2-1	Dublin	EC
Dec 7	Spain	L	0-1	Dublin	EC
1967 Feb 22	Turkey	L	1-2	Ankara	EC
May 21	Czechoslovakia	L	0-2	Dublin	EC
Nov 22	Czechoslovakia	W	2-1	Prague	EC
1968 Oct 30	Poland	L	0-1	Chorzow	
Nov 10	Austria	D	2-2	Dublin	
Dec 4	Denmark	D	1-1	Dublin	WC
	(Abandoned 51 minutes)				
1969 May 4	Czechoslovakia	L	1-2	Dublin	WC
May 27	Denmark	L	0-2	Copenhagen	WC
Jun 8	Hungary	L	1-2	Dublin	WC
Sep 21	Scotland	D	1-1	Dublin	
Oct 7	Czechoslovakia	L	0-3	Prague	WC
Oct 15	Denmark	D	1-1	Dublin	WC
Nov 5	Hungary	L	0-4	Budapest	WC
1970 May 9	W. Germany	L	1-2	W. Berlin	
Sep 23	Poland	L	0-2	Dublin	
Oct 14	Sweden	D	1-1	Dublin	EC
Oct 28	Sweden	L	0-1	Malmo	EC
Dec 8	Italy	L	0-3	Rome	EC
1971 May 10	Italy	L	1-2	Dublin	EC
May 30	Austria	L	1-4	Dublin	EC
Oct 10	Austria	L	0-6	Dublin	EC
1972 Jun 18	Iran	W	2-1	Recife (Brz)	
Jun 19	Ecuador	W	3-2	Natal (Brz)	
Jun 21	Chile	L	1-2	Recife	
Jun 25	Portugal	L	1-2	Recife	
Oct 18	Russia	L	1-2	Dublin	WC
Nov 15	France	W	2-1	Dublin	WC
1973 May 13	Russia	L	0-1	Moscow	WC
May 16	Poland	L	0-2	Wroclaw	
May 19	France	D	1-1	Paris	WC
Jun 6	Norway	D	1-1	Oslo	
Oct 21	Poland	W	1-0	Dublin	
1974 May 5	Brazil	L	1-2	Rio de Janeiro	
May 8	Uruguay	L	0-2	Montevideo	
May 12	Chile	W	2-1	Santiago	
Oct 30	Russia	W	3-0	Dublin	EC
Nov 20	Turkey	D	1-1	Izmir	EC
1975 May 11	Switzerland	W	2-1	Dublin	EC
May 18	Russia	L	1-2	Kiev	EC
May 21	Switzerland	L	0-1	Berne	EC
Oct 29	Turkey	W	4-0	Dublin	EC
1976 Mar 24	Norway	W	3-0	Dublin	
May 26	Poland	W	2-0	Poznan	
Sep 8	England	D	1-1	Wembley	
Oct 13	Turkey	D	3-3	Ankara	
Nov 17	France	L	0-2	Paris	WC
1977 Mar 30	France	W	1-0	Dublin	WC
Apr 24	Poland	D	0-0	Dublin	
Jun 1	Bulgaria	L	1-2	Sofia	WC
Oct 12	Bulgaria	D	0-0	Dublin	WC
1978 Apr 5	Turkey	W	4-2	Dublin	
Apr 12	Poland	L	0-3	Lodz	
May 21	Norway	D	0-0	Oslo	
May 24	Denmark	D	3-3	Copenhagen	EC
Sep 20	N. Ireland	D	0-0	Dublin	EC
Oct 25	England	D	1-1	Dublin	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	71	21	18	38	86	126
Up to WC '62	91	36	15	40	157	187
Total	168	57	33	78	233	313

● *Continued from page 28*

the players to face up to European soccer successfully, but that the World Cup showed he had. While saying that this was not quite what he meant, he admitted that it might seem strange that he, who always defended the natural skill and ability of the Argentine player, insisted so much on a long period of preparation instead of just putting a team in the field and depending on their inborn skill.

"What is difficult for other countries," he says, "as for example Czechoslovakia who played in a summer tournament here — such as ball control — may be easy for us. But what may be easy for them, although having players of less individual skill and simpler play — the concept of team effort — is a problem for our more skilful men. Our better ball control leads us into team play errors and we need more time together to iron out these difficulties."

Would he have to change his style to retain the World Cup in Spain?

"For the moment they are copying some of the so-called South American style in Europe," he replied with a smile. "Defenders seem to be trying more to play the ball out of defence and pass it without risks rather than boot it upfield without direction. That is what Czechoslovakia showed in Mar del Plata and I saw the same thing in France, Italy and England not long after the World Cup. It seems the Europeans are worrying about changing styles."

How was he going to defend the World Cup? Another smile . . . and obviously no revelations.

● *Continued from page 19*

against us came out to defend and make it hard for us around goal.

"In the First Division I'm sure we'll get more chance to play a proper game."

But Sansom, whose confidence can certainly be justified by his personal achievements in a few years at the top, isn't dreaming only of entertainment for the fans. He has his eyes on the major prizes.

"Look at Nottingham Forest," he says. "They crept into the First Division, then won it. I don't see why we shouldn't do something similar.

"We'll probably have to buy in a few positions, but once we get back we'll stay a lot longer then we did last time."

Some fans and observers who lack Sansom's confidence point to the way many bright young teams have sprung into the First Division in recent years, only for their promise and sparkle to fade quickly under the pressures.

Chelsea — Sansom's favourite club when he was a boy — have been one recent example. But Sansom thinks Palace and their youngsters don't bear comparison.

'It's true a lot of our players are young in terms of age, but most of us have played a minimum of 40 or 50 first team games now. We've plenty of experience. We're not a young team in that sense. I don't think we'll have the same problems trying to adjust."

Sansom's attacking style has earned a brisk progression from England schoolboys to captian of England youth, to England under-21 and well over 100 league appearances in the Third and Second Divisions.

It's no surprise to learn that his style was modelled on that of ex-England left back Terry Cooper. But what is unusual about Sansom is that he began as a goalkeeper!

He explains: "I played in goal for a local team called Brandon near Camberwell in London, where my home was. But I was a bit small and the team got another goalie. Then the left back was injured . . . and that's where I've veen ever since."

It was his brother Peter who first recommended Sansom to Palace's assistant chief scout, Archie Warren. But plenty of other clubs were interested in the promising starlet from South London. Leeds, Cooper's club, were one. But though Sansom was invited for a trial there, it was with Palace that he eventually signed apprentice forms because he thought he stood a better chance of quick progress.

Even he didn't dream how quick!

It was Malcolm Allison who first gave him a chance, in the last game of 1973-74.

"I was lucky," says Sansom. "We had a lot of injuries and suspensions. But I didn't get the chance to stay in at the start of next season because of a suspension for dissent in a Sunday game, when I got sent off."

In fact it wasn't until the end of that season that Sansom strung together five more first team games. But since then he has been immovable.

Sansom can't speak highly enough of Venables, the former Chelsea and Tottenham midfielder.

"He's magic. He has to be one of the best coaches around. That's why he got the England under-21 job. It's all down to the way he can put his ideas over. Coaches know their jobs, but the difference is how they get it across. Terry Venables is great.

"Malcolm Allison was a good coach too, but perhaps not quite such an all rounder. Terry's got the lot."

And it's to the other Terry — Cooper — that Sansom refers when he talks about the bravado of his attacking raids from left back.

"You never used to see Cooper defending," says Sansom. "My attitude is the same. If I'm always attacking the winger has to come back to try to stop me. That way he can't get up to anything to help his own attack.

LEAGUE TABLES

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Strasbourg	34	19	11	4	57	28	49
St. Etienne	34	21	6	7	65	31	48
Nantes	34	20	7	7	71	31	47
Monaco	34	17	7	10	67	45	41
Metz	34	16	6	12	54	49	38
Bordeaux	34	11	15	8	41	34	37
Lyon	34	13	10	11	50	48	36
Sochaux	34	13	9	12	54	46	36
Nimes	34	13	9	12	53	45	35
Lille	34	9	17	8	60	57	35
Bastia	33	13	8	12	49	52	34
Marseille	34	10	13	11	45	50	33
Nancy	33	12	7	14	66	55	31
St. Germain	34	11	8	15	50	59	30
Laval	34	8	13	13	49	62	29
Angers	34	8	12	14	36	62	28
Nice	34	10	8	16	53	67	28
Valenciennes	34	8	9	17	32	54	25
Paris	34	7	8	19	35	74	22
Reims	34	3	11	20	23	61	17

VENEZUELA
Copa Venezuela

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italia	5	2	2	1	9	7	6
Galicia	3	2	1	0	6	2	5
Valencia	4	2	1	1	6	4	5
Portuguesa	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Miranda	4	1	0	3	0	8	2
Portugues	4	0	1	3	4	9	1

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atletico Zamora	5	3	1	1	7	3	7
Lara	5	2	2	1	5	1	6
Tachira	5	3	0	2	7	4	6
Estudiantes	5	2	1	2	5	5	5
Univ. de Los Andes	5	0	3	2	2	4	3
Falcon	5	1	1	3	4	13	4

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamburg	31	20	6	5	73	30	46
Stuttgart	31	18	8	5	62	29	44
Kaiserslautern	31	16	10	5	59	40	42
Bayern	31	15	7	9	64	40	37
Frankfurt	31	14	7	10	45	44	35
Düsseldorf	31	12	9	10	63	53	33
Cologne	31	11	11	9	47	44	33
Bochum	31	10	11	10	44	42	31
Brunswick	31	9	12	10	46	50	30
Bremen	30	9	10	11	43	52	28
Hertha Berlin	31	0	10	12	37	42	28
Mönchengladbach	30	10	7	13	41	46	27
Dortmund	31	8	11	12	49	67	27
Bielefeld	30	9	7	14	40	47	25
Duisburg	29	9	6	14	36	52	24
Schalke 04	30	7	10	13	48	55	24
Nürnberg	31	7	7	17	29	60	21
Darmstadt	31	5	7	19	34	67	17

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beveren-Waas	32	19	10	3	60	21	48
Anderlecht	32	19	3	10	69	38	41
Lokeren	32	15	10	7	53	30	40
Standard	32	15	10	7	42	28	40
RWD Molenbeek	32	16	7	9	53	38	39
Bruges	32	13	10	9	49	47	36
Waterschei	32	10	12	10	39	38	32
Winterslag	32	10	11	11	43	45	31
Antwerpen	32	9	13	10	38	39	31
SC Charleroi	32	11	8	13	37	44	30
Beerschot	32	11	7	14	43	48	29
Lierse	32	11	7	14	39	46	29
Beringen	32	9	11	12	34	41	29
Waregem	32	7	15	10	33	43	29
Berchem	32	7	12	13	26	41	26
Lüttich	32	9	6	17	45	51	24
La Louvière	32	8	7	17	42	74	23
Kortrijk	32	5	9	18	25	58	19

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	26	20	2	4	63	18	42
Porto	26	17	8	1	51	17	42
Sporting	26	14	8	4	37	18	36
Braga	26	13	4	9	40	31	30
Guimares	26	12	5	9	41	32	29
Varzim	25	9	8	8	26	26	26
Belenenses	25	9	7	9	41	33	25
Estoril	26	8	9	9	24	34	25
Setubal	26	9	6	11	28	35	24
Boavista	25	10	3	12	30	32	23
Famalicao	26	9	5	12	25	32	23
Maritimo Funchal	25	8	5	12	28	33	21
Beira-Mar	26	10	1	15	40	27	21
Barreirense	26	7	6	13	22	39	20
Academico Coimbra	26	4	6	16	16	37	14
Viseu	26	5	1	20	12	60	11

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	21	18	3	0	59	12	39
Dresden	21	11	9	1	47	13	31
Jena	21	12	4	5	32	16	28
Magdeburg	21	11	5	5	46	22	27
Halle	21	8	6	7	29	26	22
Leipzig	21	8	6	7	33	35	22
Erfurt	21	6	5	8	27	31	21
Riesa	21	7	4	10	29	38	18
Union Berlin	21	6	6	9	19	33	18
Karl-Marx-Stadt	21	6	4	11	22	32	16
Zwickau	21	6	2	13	17	55	14
Rostock	21	4	5	12	25	37	13
Aue	21	5	3	13	25	42	13
Böhlen	21	4	4	13	22	41	12

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	42	30	8	4	85	16	68
West Bromwich	40	24	11	5	72	33	59
Nottingham Forest	41	20	18	3	60	26	58
Everton	42	17	17	8	52	40	51
Leeds	42	18	14	10	70	52	50
Ipswich	42	20	9	13	63	49	49
Arsenal	41	17	13	11	60	47	47
Aston Villa	41	14	16	11	56	47	44
Manchester United	41	15	14	12	59	62	44
Coventry	42	14	16	12	58	68	44
Middlesbrough	42	15	10	17	57	50	40
Bristol City	42	15	10	17	47	51	40
Southampton	42	12	16	14	47	53	40
Manchester City	41	13	13	15	56	53	39
Tottenham	41	12	15	14	47	61	39
Norwich	42	7	23	12	51	57	37
Bolton	42	12	11	19	54	75	35
Wolverhampton	42	13	8	21	44	68	34
Derby	42	10	11	21	44	71	31
Queen's Park Rang	42	6	13	23	45	73	25
Birmingham	42	6	10	26	37	64	22
Chelsea	40	5	8	27	42	90	18

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	34	19	6	9	56	35	44
Dundee Utd	36	18	8	10	56	37	44
Rangers	33	17	9	7	48	29	43
Aberdeen	36	13	14	9	59	36	40
St Mirren	36	15	6	15	45	41	36
Morton	36	12	12	12	52	53	36
Hibernian	35	11	13	11	42	47	35
Partick Thistle	35	13	8	14	42	38	34
Hearts	35	8	7	20	39	70	23
Motherwell	36	5	7	24	33	86	17

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	29	20	5	4	74	26	45
Feyenoord	29	15	12	2	52	17	42
AZ '67 Alkmaar	29	17	6	6	76	38	40
PSV Eindhoven	28	16	7	5	51	21	39
Roda JC Kerkrade	29	15	7	7	46	26	37
Sparta Rotterdam	29	14	4	11	42	37	32
Twente Enschede	29	9	12	8	50	38	30
Go Ahead Deventer	29	10	8	11	40	39	28
PEC Zwolle	29	6	15	8	29	38	27
FC den Haag	29	8	11	10	34	44	27
NAC Breda	29	6	14	9	32	44	26
Utrecht	29	8	9	12	37	47	25
MVV Maastricht	29	7	11	11	21	41	25
NEC Nijmegen	29	5	12	12	27	41	22
Vitesse Arnheim	29	5	12	12	32	56	22
Volendam	29	6	8	15	34	48	20
Haarlem	28	4	11	13	23	53	19
VVV Venlo	29	4	6	19	20	66	14

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	31	14	15	2	51	32	43
Gijon	31	17	7	7	47	31	41
Real Sociedad	31	16	4	11	47	34	36
Las Palmas	31	14	8	9	48	39	36
Barcelona	31	15	5	11	66	33	35
Atletico Madrid	30	11	12	7	47	35	34
Español Barcelona	31	14	5	12	35	42	33
Valencia	31	13	6	12	40	35	32
Sevilla	31	11	9	11	44	43	31
Burgos	31	10	11	10	36	44	31
Athletic Bilbao	30	11	8	11	53	40	30
Hercules	31	12	5	14	30	36	29
Salamanca	31	10	8	13	26	36	28
Real Zaragoza	31	12	3	16	54	57	27
Rayo Vallecano	31	8	10	13	27	48	26
Celta Vigo	31	6	8	15	29	50	24
Santander	31	9	4	18	33	51	22
Huelva	31	7	4	20	35	62	18

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria/WAC	30	21	4	5	69	34	46
Rapid	30	12	11	7	44	32	35
Wiener SK/Post	30	12	9	9	55	42	33
Sturm Graz	30	12	8	10	35	37	32
VOeEST Linz	30	10	11	9	32	33	31
Austria Salzburg	30	10	8	12	25	45	28
Admira/Wacker	30	9	7	14	32	35	25
Vienna	30	8	9	13	40	51	25
Grazer AK	30	7	11	12	29	42	25
SSW Innsbruck	30	6	8	16	31	41	20

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	30	17	10	3	46	19	44
Perugia	30	11	9	0	34	16	41
Juventus	30	12	13	5	40	23	37
Internazionale	30	10	16	4	38	24	36
Torino	30	11	14	5	35	23	36
Napoli	30	9	14	7	23	21	32
Fiorentina	30	10	12	8	26	26	32
Lazio	30	9	11	10	35	40	29
Catanzaro	30	6	16	8	23	30	28
Ascoli	30	7	12	11	26	31	25
Avellino	30	6	14	10	19	26	26
Roma	30	8	10	12	24	32	26
Bologna	30	4	16	10	23	30	24
Atalanta	30	6	12	12	20	33	24
L. R. Vicenza	30	5	14	11	29	42	24
Verona	30	2	11	17	14	39	15

ARGENTINA
Metropolitan First Division

Section A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Argentinos Juniors	7	5	1	1	14	10	11
Newell's Old Boys	7	4	1	2	14	7	9
Racing Club	7	3	3	1	15	9	9
Union S. Fe	7	2	4	1	8	8	8
River Plate	7	3	2	2	7	5	8
Quilmes	7	3	2	2	14	13	8
Velez Sarsfield	7	2	2	3	12	14	6
Huracan	7	2	2	3	12	16	6
Gimnasia y Esgrima	7	1	1	5	5	9	3
Platense	7	1	0	6	8	18	2

Section B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosario Central	7	6	1	0	19	3	13
FC Oeste	7	4	2	1	10	7	10
Est. de La Plata	7	3	3	1	16	13	9
Boca Juniors	7	4	0	3	13	9	8
San Lorenzo	7	2	3	2	11	9	7
Colon S. Fe	7	3	1	3	13	12	7
All Boys	7	2	2	3	10	13	6
Independiente	7	2	1	4	9	12	5
Atlanta	7	0	3	4	5	11	3
Chacarita Juniors	7	1	0	6	4	21	2

(Top two enter semi-finals and bottom two relegation playoff from each section at end of season)

CHILE
Pre-season "Opening"
First Division championship
(final group standings)

Group 1 — Palestino and Universidad Catolica 9 pts, Wanderers 5, Everton 4. Group 2 — Union Espanola 9, Cobreloa 8, Coquimbo 6, O'Higgins 5. Group 3 — Concepción and Naval 9, Green Cross 4, Lota Schwager 3. Group 4 — Colo Colo 17, Universidad de Chile 16, Aviación 15, Audax Italiano 8, Santiago Morning 7, Nubiense 5. (Top two from each group qualified for quarter-finals.)

COLOMBIA
"Opening" Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America de Cali	11	5	5	1	9	5	15
Atletico Juniors	12	6	2	4	18	17	14
Union Magdalena	12	4	5	3	16	12	13
Independ. Santa Fe	12	2	8	3	16	16	12
Quindio	12	4	4	4	15	11	12
Nacional	11	4	4	3	14	15	12
Medellin	11	4	4	3	16	13	12
Cucuta	11	3	5	3	11	12	11
Pereira	12	4	3	5	16	16	11
Cristal Caldas	11	3	4	4	12	13	10
Millionarios	7	4	1	2	13	8	9
Tolima	11	2	4	5	12	22	8
Deportivo Cali	8	2	3	3	9	11	7
Bucaramanga	11	0	6	5	8	14	6

HEINZ FLOHE F.C. Cologne

World SOCCER

STRASBOURG left to right, standing: Novi, Marx, Specht, Domenech, Deutchnian, Dropsy. Front: Erlahcher, Wagner, Gemrich, Tanter, Piasecki.